FAMILY TREE - MOTHER'S SIDE

RITA BELLE BROWN : mother - Cora Belle Copley Brown Winegarner
born Jan.5,1917
died July 24,1982 Newark, Ohio

grandfather (Cora's father) - Clyde R. Copley born Jan.6,1894
died May 31,1967 Newark, Oh.

great-grandfather (Clyde's parents) - G. Milroy Copley
great- grandmother - Laura Endicott

great-great grandfather (Laura's parents) - Ella _____ Endicott
great-great grandmother - Joshua Endicott

great-great grandfather (Milroy's parents) - Julina _____ Copley
great-great grandmother - William Copley

grandmother (Cora's mother) - Cora I. Martin

great-grandfather (Cora I.'s parents) - S.S. D. Martin
great-grandmother - Nancy Jane _____ Martin

great-great grandfather (S.S.D.'s parents) - William H. Martin born June 12,1811
great-great grandmother - Druzila _____ Martin born Dec.25,1815

great-great grandfather (Nancy Jane's parents) - Nancy Jane Chapman born Homewood,Penn.
great-great grandmother - Joshua Powell

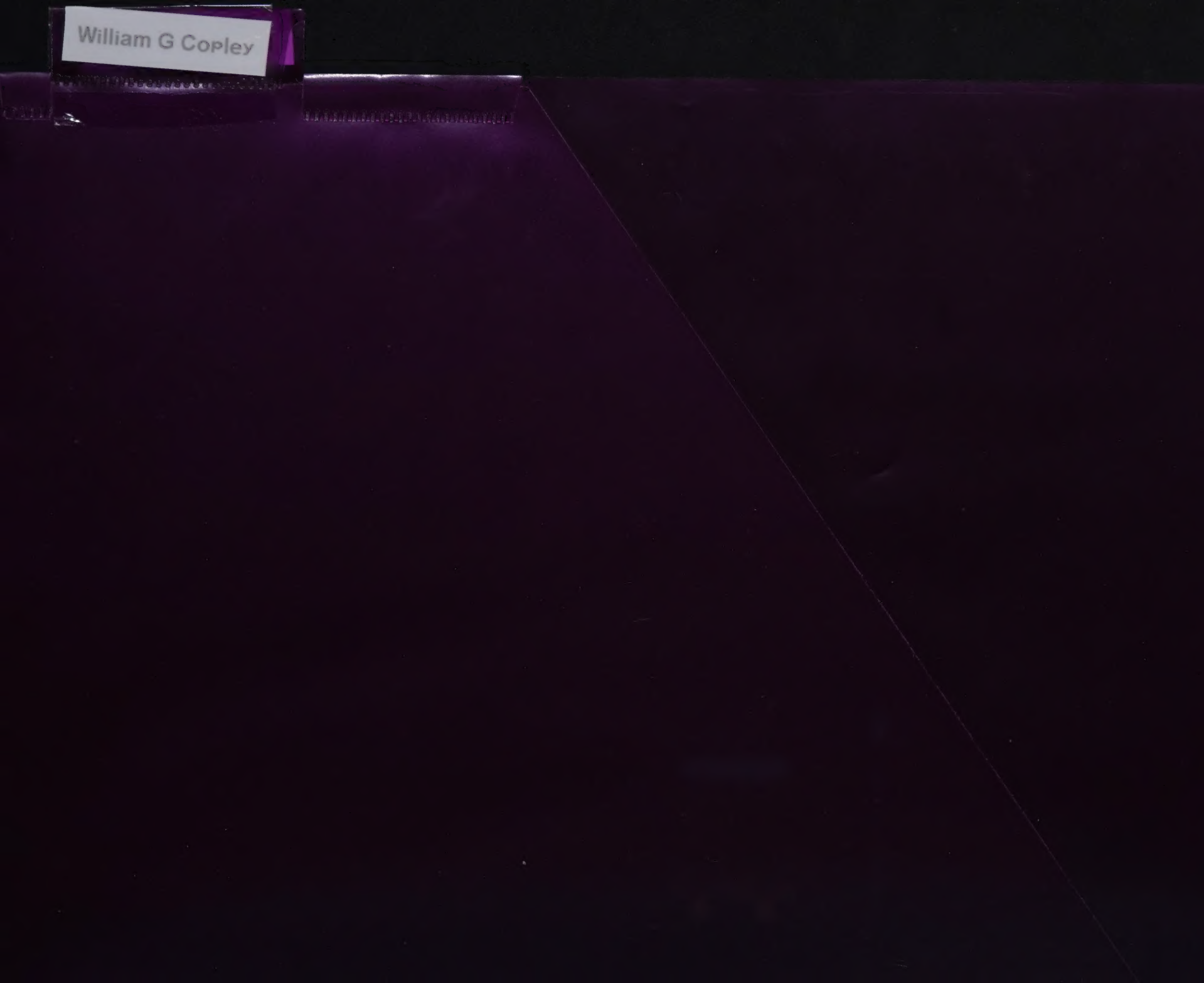
****

Children of William H. Martin & Druzila:

1. Hannah born May 8,1836 deied Oct.5,1838
2. Harrison born Sept.30,1838
3. William born Nov.28,1840
4. Elizabeth born Feb.2,1843 died AUg.26,1843
5. Hiram born June 20,1844
6. Jefferson born AUg.28,1846
7. Madison born Nov.14,1848
8. Washington born Feb.16,1855
9. Sanford Sterns Doyle born Mar.4,1859 died Mar.17,1935

Druzila's brother Lemuel died Sept.14,1933

William G Copley


William G Copley

Name	John H. Crider
Side	Union
Regiment State/Origin	Illinois
Regiment	31st Regiment, Illinois Infantry
Company	G
Rank In	Private
Rank Out	Private
Film Number	M539 roll 19

John H. Crider in the

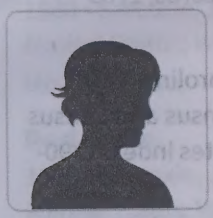
U.S., Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865

Name	John H Crider
Enlistment Date	4 Dec 1863
Enlistment Rank	Private
Muster Date	4 Dec 1863
Muster Place	Illinois
Muster Company	G
Muster Regiment	31st Infantry
Muster Regiment Type	Infantry
Muster Information	Enlisted
Muster Out Date	19 Jul 1865
Muster Out Place	Louisville, Kentucky
Muster Out Information	Mustered Out

John H Crider in the

U.S., Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1865

ancestry



Francis Ann (Fanny) DALE

BIRTH 1796 • Tennessee, United States
DEATH 1860 • Louisa, Lawrence, Kentucky, USA
2nd great-grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
1796 • Tennessee, United States

Baptism
3 Jun 1796 • Hinton Blewett, Somerset, England

Baptism
03 Jun 1796 • Hinton Blewett, Somerset, England

Age 3 — **Death of mother Jane Ann ARBUCKLE #** (1766–1799)
1799 • Washington County, Tennessee, USA

Age 3 — **Death of mother Jane Ann Arbuckle #** (1766–1799)
1799 • Washington County, Tennessee, USA

Age 16 — **Residence**
1812 • Second Regiment, Edgecombe County, NC

Age 16 — **Residence**
1812 • Second Regiment, Edgecombe County, NC

Age 18 — **Death of father James DALE #** (1754–1814)
Aug 1814 • Poss, Washington, Tennessee, United States

Age 18 — **Death of father James Dale #** (1754–1814)
Aug 1814 • Poss, Washington, Tennessee, United States

Age 24 — **Residence**
1820 • Floyd, Kentucky, United States

Age 24 — **Residence**
1820 • Floyd, Kentucky, United States

Family

Biological parents

James DALE #
1754–1814

Jane Ann ARBUCKLE #
1766–1799

Spouse

Jim or (John William) BROWN
1805–1880

Spouse

Berry BROWN
1794–1870

Spouse & Children

Lewis BROWN
1836–1923

Minerva Jane Hall
1843–1907

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1820 United States Federal Census

1830 United States Federal Census

1840 United States Federal Census

1850 United States Federal Census

1860 United States Federal Census

1880 United States Federal Census

American Genealogical-Biographical Index (AGBI)

Birmingham, England, Church of England Baptisms, 1813-1912

Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2011

Kentucky, Compiled Marriages, 1802-1850

Kentucky, Compiled Marriages, 1802-1850

Kentucky, County Marriage Records, 1783-1965

Age 28 — **Marriage**
03 May 1824 • Bath, Kentucky, USA
Jim or (John William) BROWN (1805–1880)

Age 28 — **Marriage**
03 May 1824 • Bath, Kentucky, USA
Berry BROWN (1794–1870)

Age 28 — **Marriage**
3 May 1824 • Bath, Kentucky, USA
Berry BROWN (1794–1870)

Age 34 — **Residence**
1830 • Floyd, Kentucky, USA

Age 34 — **Residence**
1830 • Floyd, Kentucky, USA

Age 40 — **Birth of son Lewis BROWN** (1836–1923)
16 Sep 1836 • Greenup County, Kentucky, United States of America

Age 44 — **Residence**
1840 • Floyd, Kentucky, USA

Age 44 — **Residence**
1840 • Floyd, Kentucky, USA

Age 47 — **Birth of daughter Minerva Jane Hall** (1843–1907)
17 Apr 1843 • Kentucky

Age 54 — **Residence**
1850 • District 1, Greenup, Kentucky, USA

Age 54 — **Residence**
1850 • District 1, Greenup, Kentucky, USA

Age 64 — **Residence**
1860 • Greenup, Kentucky, USA
Residence Post Office: Truettsville

Age 64 — **Residence**
1860 • Greenup, Kentucky, USA
Residence Post Office: Truettsville

Age 64 — **Death**
1860 • Louisa, Lawrence, Kentucky, USA

Baptism
24 Nov 1861 • Worcestershire, England

Baptism
24 Nov 1861 • Worcestershire, England

Kentucky, County Marriage Records, 1783-1965

North Carolina, Compiled Census and Census Substitutes Index, 1790-1890

Somerset, England, Church of England Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials, 1531-1812

U.S. and International Marriage Records, 1560-1900

U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995

Residence
1880 • Sarcoxie, Jasper, Missouri, USA
Marital Status: Widowed; Relation to Head: Mother-in-law

Residence
1880 • Sarcoxie, Jasper, Missouri, USA
Marital Status: Widowed; Relation to Head: Mother-in-law

Residence
1916 • Lexington, Kentucky, USA

Residence
1916 • Lexington, Kentucky, USA

Joan

Joan L Watson in the

1950 United States Federal Census

Compare details

Record details

Name	Joan L Watson
Age	7
Birth Date	1943
Gender	F (Female)
Birth Place	Ohio
Marital Status	Never Married (Single)
Relation to Head of House	Daughter
Residence Date	1950
Home in 1950	Pataskala, Licking, Ohio, USA
Farm	No
Acres	No
Household Members	Household Members

View record page for additional details, certificate purchase, suggested records, or to report an issue.

Provided in association with National Archives and Records Administration
Ancestry.com. *1950 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2022.
Thanks to our proprietary handwriting recognition technology, all 1950 U.S. Census records are now searchable. Transcription accuracy is dependent upon the quality of the document being scanned. For best results, view the census image.
Would you like to save this information to your tree?

Yes	No	Mayb

ancestry

Albert Ern BROWN

BIRTH 12 OCT 1883 • Greenup County, Kentucky, USA
DEATH 30 MAY 1964 • Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio
paternal grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
12 Oct 1883 • Greenup County, Kentucky, USA

Residence
1880 • Greenup, Greenup, Kentucky, USA
Marital Status: Single; Relation to Head: Son

Age 4 — **Birth of Sister Mary Etta BROWN** (1887–1971)
23 Dec 1887 • Greenup County, Kentucky, USA

Age 5 — **Birth of Sister Goldie BROWN** (1893–1970)
abt 1889

Age 10 — **Birth of Sister Goldie BROWN** (1893–1970)
6 Nov 1893 • Kentucky

Age 11 — **Birth of Sister Goldie BROWN** (1893–1970)
Nov 1894 • Greenup County, Kentucky, USA

Age 17 — **Residence**
1900 • Greenup Town, Greenup, Kentucky
Marital Status: Single; Relation to Head: Son

Age 23 — **Marriage**
9 May 1907 • Wheelersburg, Scioto, Ohio, USA

Jane "Janie" WATKINS
(1890–1979)

Age 24 — **Birth of Daughter Josephine BROWN** (1907–1982)
29 Oct 1907 • Greenup Town, Greenup, Kentucky

Age 26 — **Birth of Daughter Lily Belle (Mae?) BROWN** (1910–1998)
01 Jul 1910 • Greenup, Greenup, Kentucky, United States

Age 27 — **Residence**
1910 • Alcorn, Greenup, Kentucky

Family

Parents

Lewis BROWN
1836–1923

Sarah Jane HAMILTON
1860–1950

Spouse & Children

Jane "Janie" WATKINS
1890–1979

Josephine BROWN
1907–1982

Lily Belle (Mae?) BROWN
1910–1998

Noah Lewis BROWN
1912–1980

Ern Ellis "Whitey" BROWN
1915–1990

Elza Monroe BROWN
1918–1982

Anna Frances BROWN
1920–1984

Ralph Earl "Dude" BROWN
1922–2008

Ernest James "Johnny" BROWN
1924–1990

Marilyn Jean BROWN
1926–2002

Ruth Lee BROWN
1928–2009

William Frederick "Todd" BROWN
1930–2006

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1880 United States Federal Census

1900 United States Federal Census

1910 United States Federal Census

1920 United States Federal Census

1920 United States Federal Census

1930 United States Federal Census

1930 United States Federal Census

1940 United States Federal Census

Beta: Newspapers.com Obituary Index, 1940-1955

Beta: Newspapers.com Obituary Index, 1940-1955

Beta: Newspapers.com Obituary Index, 1940-1955

Beta: Newspapers.com Obituary Index, 1940-1955

Ohio, County Marriages, 1774-1993

Albert Ern BROWN

BIRTH 12 OCT 1883 • Greenup County, Kentucky, USA
DEATH 30 MAY 1964 • Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio
paternal grandfather

Facts

Family

Sources

Age 28 — **Birth of Son Noah Lewis BROWN** (1912–1980)
2 Oct 1912 • Greenup County, Kentucky, United States of America

Age 29 — **Death of Half-Sister Alice Elizabeth BROWN** (1855–1922)
11 June 1913 • Manhattan, New York, USA

Age 30 — **Death of Half-Sister Martha Alice Emily BROWN** (1857–1913)
abt 1913

Age 31 — **Birth of Son Ern Ellis "Whitey" BROWN** (1915–1990)
11 Aug 1915 • Greenup, Greenup, Kentucky, USA

Age 31 — **Death of Half-Brother George W. BROWN** (1863–1915)
07 Oct 1915 • Scioto, Ohio, United States

Age 31 — **Death of Half-Brother George W. BROWN** (1863–1915)
9 Oct 1915 • Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, USA

Age 31 — **Death of Half-Brother George W. BROWN** (1863–1915)
9 Oct 1915 • Ohio River

Age 31 — **Death of Half-Brother George W. BROWN** (1863–1915)
9 Oct 1915 • Ohio River Bank

Age 31 — **Death of Half-Brother George W. BROWN** (1863–1915)
11 Oct 1915 • Ports mouth Ohio

Age 32 — **Death of Half-Brother Wesley BROWN** (1860–1916)
27 Jul 1916 • Bushcreek, Highland County, Ohio, USA

Age 33 — **Death of Half-Sister Nancy BROWN** (1859–1916)
13 October 1916 • Greenup County, Kentucky, United States of America

Age 33 — **Death of Half-Sister Adeline BROWN** (1868–1917)
3 Oct 1917 • Portsmouth, Scioto County, Ohio, United States of America

Age 34 — **Birth of Sister Goldie BROWN** (1893–1970)
08 Jun 1918 • Greenup, Kentucky

Betty Jane BROWN
1932–

Ohio, Deaths, 1908-1932, 1938-2007

U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995

U.S. WWII Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current

U.S., Railroad Retirement Pension Index, 1934-1987

U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007

Other Sources

Findagrave

Age 34 — **Birth of Son Elza Monroe BROWN** (1918–1982)
17 Jun 1918 • Scioto County, Ohio, United States of America

Age 35 — **Birth of Sister Goldie BROWN** (1893–1970)
Abt. 1919

Age 36 — **Birth of Daughter Anna Frances BROWN** (1920–1984)
22 Jul 1920 • Greenup, Greenup, Kentucky, United States

Age 37 — **Residence**
1920 • Porter, Scioto, Ohio
Marital Status: Married; Relation to Head of House: Head

Age 38 — **Death of Half-Sister Alice Elizabeth BROWN** (1855–1922)
3 Jun 1922 • Manhattan, New York, USA

Age 38 — **Birth of Son Ralph Earl "Dude" BROWN** (1922–2008)
26 Jun 1922 • Greenup, Greenup, Kentucky, USA

Age 39 — **Death of Father Lewis BROWN** (1836–1923)
28 February 1923 • Scioto County, Ohio, USA

Age 39 — **Death of Father Lewis BROWN** (1836–1923)
28 Feb 1923 • Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, USA

Age 39 — **Death of Father Lewis BROWN** (1836–1923)
30 Apr 1923 • Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, USA

Age 40 — **Birth of Son Ernest James "Johnny" BROWN** (1924–1990)
26 Apr 1924 • Scioto, Ohio, United States

Age 42 — **Birth of Daughter Marilyn Jean BROWN** (1926–2002)
19 Feb 1926 • Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, United States

Age 43 — **Residence**
1926 • ss wall 12 e of, Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, USA

Age 44 — **Birth of Daughter Ruth Lee BROWN** (1928–2009)
30 Mar 1928 • Scioto, Ohio, United States

Age 45 — **Residence**
28 Dec 1928

Age 46 — **Residence**
1929 • ss front 15 e of s'ville, Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, USA

Age 46 — **Birth of Son William Frederick "Todd" BROWN** (1930–2006)
26 Feb 1930 • Scioto County, Ohio, USA

Age 47 — **Residence**
1930 • ss front 13 e of corr smile, Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, USA

Age 48 — **Birth of Daughter Betty Jane BROWN** (1932–)
26 Jun 1932 • Scioto County, Ohio, USA

Age 49 — **Residence**
1932 • ss front 13 e of corr smile, Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, USA

Age 52 — **Residence**
1935 • Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio

Age 56 — **Residence**
1939 • ss front 1 e donby sville, Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, USA

Age 56 — **Residence**
1 Apr 1940 • Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, USA
Marital Status: Married; Relation to Head of House: Head

Age 57 — **Death of Half-Brother Harvey Thomas BROWN** (1877–1940)
19 October 1940 • Flint, Genesee County, Michigan, United States of America

Age 62 — **Death of Sister Pearl BROWN** (1878–1945)
1945 • Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, USA

Age 66 — **Death of Half-Sister Lucy E. BROWN** (1865–1950)
13 Jul 1950 • Hardin, Ohio, USA

Age 66 — **Death of Half-Sister Lucy E. BROWN** (1865–1950)
13 Jul 1950 • Portsmouth, Scioto County, Ohio, United States of America

Age 67 — **Death of Mother Sarah Jane HAMILTON** (1860–1950)
20 Nov 1950 • Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, United States

Age 67 — **Death of Mother Sarah Jane HAMILTON** (1860–1950)
20 Nov 1950 • Scioto, Ohio, United States

Age 69 — **Residence**
1952 • ss front 1 e caory, Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, USA

Age 77 — **Residence**
1960 • 6122 front scioto, Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, USA

Age 80 — **Ern Albert Brown**
30 May 1964 • Wheelersburg, Scioto County, Ohio, USA

Age 80 — **Death**
30 May 1964 • Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio

Burial
Wheelersburg, Scioto County, Ohio, USA

Residence
Portsmouth

Residence
Page eight The Portsmouth Daily Times Tuesday, June 15, 1915 Mrs. Lewis Brown of Sixth Street left Tuesday for Green, KY, to visit her son, Albert Brown.

Age 67 — **Death of Mother Sarah Jane HAMILTON** (1850–1950)
20 Nov 1950 • Scioto, Ohio, United States

Age 69 — **Residence**
1952 • ss *Iront* 1 e canry, Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, USA

Age 72 — **Residence**
1950 • 6122 *Iront* scioto, Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, USA

Age 80 — **Em Albert Brown**
30 May 1964 • Wheelersburg, Scioto County, Ohio, USA

Age 80 — **Death**
30 May 1964 • Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio

Burial
Wheelersburg, Scioto County, Ohio, USA

Residence
Portsmouth

Residence
Page eight The Portsmouth Daily Times Tuesday, June 15, 1915 Mrs. Lewis Brown of Sixth Street left Tuesday for Green, KY, to visit her son, Albert Brown.

Ohio, Deaths, 1908-1932, 1938-2007

Name

Ernest J Brown

Gender

Male

Race

White, Not Hispanic (White)

Age

66

Birth Date

26 Apr 1924

Birth Place

Ohio, USA

Residence Place

Newark, Licking, Ohio, USA

Death Date

19 Jun 1990

Death Hospital

Hospital/Inpatient

Death Place

Newark, Licking, USA

Filing Date

22 Jun 1990

Inquest Hospital

Licking Memorial Hospital

Registrar's Certificate Number

045007

Father

Brown

Inquest Questions

Place of Injury: Unspecified Place; Injury in Ohio?: Yes; Referred to Coroner?: Not Referred to Coroner; Certifier: Physician; Autopsy Performed?: No Autopsy performed; Time of Death: 09:10 AM

Education

12

Industry

Glass and glass products

Occupation

Machine operators, not specified

The Advocate (Newark, Ohio) 16 July 1973

Emergency runs

SATURDAY

11 06 a m. to 303 Barclay St., Edith Shaw, burn, given first aid aid and taken to hospital.

2 32 p m. to Owens Corning Fiberglas; Ernest Brown and James Hottle, injury accident, given first aid and taken to hospital.

4.56 p.m. to 97 W. Locust St.; Patty Collins, illness, advised to go to hospital

11 01 p m to 665 W. Main St.; Wayne Holmes, injury accident, given first aid and taken to hospital.

CorreXions

U.S. World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946

Record details

Name	Noah L Brown
Race	White
Marital Status	Married
Rank	Private
Birth Year	1913
Nativity State or Country	Texas
Citizenship	Citizen
Residence	Jefferson, Texas
Education	4 years of high school
Civil Occupation	Skilled boilermakers
Enlistment Date	21 Feb 1945
Enlistment Place	Houston, Texas
Service Number	38594830

U.S., World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946

Record details

Name	Noah L Brown
Race	White
Marital Status	Married
Rank	Private
Birth Year	1913
Nativity State or Country	Texas
Citizenship	Citizen
Residence	Jefferson, Texas
Education	4 years of high school
Civil Occupation	Skilled boilermakers
Enlistment Date	21 Feb 1945
Enlistment Place	Houston, Texas
Service Number	38559830

Cherokee Application of Berry's Son

For the following, I am indebted to cherokeechick33 for putting me on the right path, and to diana for posting this to a GenWeb forum (http://genforum.genealogy.com/ky/messages/38414.html):

To all researching Berry Brown of Greeup Ky. I found a Cherokee Citizenship Application for him...

APPLICATION TO CITIZENSHIP.

To the Honorable National Council of Cherokee Nation, Ind.Ter. GENTLEMEN: ---The undersigned, your petitioner, this day makes this his Application for Citizenship in the Cherokee Nation, and respectfully make the following statement on grounds of this his Application to wit:

That he is the great grandson of one Dale Who the undersigned fully believes ws an Indian belonging to said tribe. , being of one half pure blood.
The undersigned hereby presents the above facts, as the lawful grounds for this his Application for his Citizenship by blood, and respectfully awaits the time when his Application shall be truly heard and tried. Respectfully submitted.
Age 62 years, Postoffice Greenup . Greenup county Kentucky.
Family, with their relationship attached is as follows:

Name----------Sex-------Age----Relationship
Dale----------Male----------Great Grandfather
William Brown----Male----------Grandfather
Berry Brown------Male----------Father, deceased
Nannce? Brown----Female----------Mother, deceased
Margaret Brown---Female-----77----sister, living
Polly Robbins----Female-----64----sister, living
Jane Prater------Female-----60----sister, living
Rhoda Howe-------Female-----54----sister, living
Aaron? Brown-----Male-------75----brother,living
David Brown------Male-------65----brother,living
Sarah Jones------Female-----67----sister, living
John Brown-------Male-------52----brother,living

these are all the brothers and sisters now alive.

In witness of which application, I hereunto set my hand, ont this the 29 day of July, 1893....signed, Joseph A. Brown(his mark).
Supscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of July,1893.
J.P.BYERS,Attorney.....Charles W. Davidson (Notary Public).

AFFIDAVIT OF WITNESS.
STATE OF KENTUCKY
COUNTY OF GREENUP

Before , the undersigned, a Notary Public, in and for the county and state aforesaid, personally appeared Hosea Howe, who after being by me duly sworn states that he is 68 years of age, and a citizen of Greenup county state of Kentucky and the he is personally acquainted with Joseph A. Brown and John Brown.
Who is an applicant for citizenship in the Cherokee Nation, I.T., and affiliant futher states that the said Brown are the identical persons they represents himself to be in their application for citizenship in said Nation and that the said, ..Joseph A. Brown and John Brown are full brothers, and have been acquainted with them for about 40 years, and was acquainted with their father, Berry Brown, for about the same length of time, Said Berry Brown claimed to be one fourth Indian blood. The appplicants are both of a dark copper color, with very black hair and rather small black eyes.

(the rest of this page states that Joseph A. and John Brown, for the past 40 years and knows they are and have been recognized and treated by neighbors, acquaintances and the public generally, as a person s persons having much Indian blood, complecion, physical appearance, language, and manners of the said Browns indicate that the said Browns are of Indian blood. That from the above facts and circumstances and from statements made to me by the said Browns and their father, Berry Brown.,.....dated on the 29th day of July A.D. 1893.)

another APPLICATION OF WITNESS was a John Prater, 63 years of age, a citizen of Greenup,KY., and states he is personally acquainted with Joseph A. Brown and John Brown, who is applicant for citizenship in the Cherokee Nation,I.T.. ...John Prater states that Joseph A. Brown and John Brown are full brothers, and are of a dark copper color with very black hair and rather small black eyes. He was acquainted with their father Berry Brown for about 40 years, and he showed strong indication of Indian blood., dated 29th day of July, 1893.

It appears to me that Joseph A. Brown was the one who intially filled an Cherokee Citizenship Application, and states his brother to be John Brown, and their father to be Berry Brown of Greenup co., Ky. It also appears that Joseph A. Brown listed his father, Berry Brown.
And Joseph A. Browns great grandfather to be Dale Brown.
William Brown appears on the application to be the son of Dale Brown, and the father of Berry Brown.

This may not be the whole application. The application also appears to be #2357.

Berry's Heritage

Per Jennifer Duncan's family tree on RootsWeb, Berry Brown was listed in 1850 and 1860 census lists as a "mulatto"; Teresa Clarkson alternatively reports that he was a full-blooded Cherokee. Which is true? Unfortunately, without further evidence, we do not know. Those who pursue family history are well aware that census takers often made their own judgment about heritage based upon appearance, or would take the word of a neighbor who professed to know the family well. Similiarly, we know that stories passed down through families, while often romantic and imaginative, are not always accurate. Was Berry Brown a person of African-American descent, Native American descent, or merely what my late father-in-law would have called "swarthy"? *Additional note, added October 23, 2008:* According to Ann S. Bernard's research, the enlistment roll from Berry's (very short) service in the War of 1812 lists him as a full-blooded Cherokee.

Berry's Heritage

Berry's Heritage

Posted 26 Jun 2008 by celtinore

Per Jennifer Duncan's family tree on RootsWeb, Berry Brown was listed in 1850 and 1860 census lists as a "mulatto"; Teresa Clarkson alternatively reports that he was a full-blooded Cherokee. Which is true? Unfortunately, without further evidence, we do not know. Those who pursue family history are well aware that census takers often made their own judgment about heritage based upon appearance, or would take the word of a neighbor who professed to know the family well. Similiarly, we know that stories passed down through families, while often romantic and imaginative, are not always accurate. Was Berry Brown a person of African-American descent, Native American descent, or merely what my late father-in-law would have called "swarthy"? *Additional note, added October 23, 2008:* According to Ann S. Bernard's research, the enlistment roll from Berry's (very short) service in the War of 1812 lists him as a full-blooded Cherokee.

Berry's Heritage

Posted 26 Jun 2008 by cellmore

Per Jennifer Duncan's family tree on RootsWeb, Berry Brown was listed in 1850 and 1860 census lists as a "mulatto"; Teresa Clarkson alternatively reports that he was a full-blooded Cherokee. Which is true? Unfortunately, without further evidence, we do not know. Those who pursue family history are well aware that census takers often made their own judgment about heritage based upon appearance, or would take the word of a neighbor who professed to know the family well. Similarly, we know that stories passed down through families, while often romantic and imaginative, are not always accurate. Was Berry Brown a person of African-American descent, Native American descent, or merely what my late father-in-law would have called "swarthy"? Additional note, added October 23, 2008: According to Ann S. Bernard's research, the enlistment roll from Berry's (very short) service in the War of 1812 lists him as a full-blooded Cherokee.

Benjamin Hamilton in the

U.S., Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865

Compare details

Record details

Name	Benjamin Hamilton
Side	Union
Regiment State/Origin	Ohio
Regiment	30th Regiment, Ohio Infantry
Company	I
Rank In	Private
Rank Out	Private
Film Number	M552 roll 43

Benedict Wadkins served from 1779 - 1781 in the Rowan County Regiment

1779 - Served as a private under Cape. William Bell and Col. Francis Locke

1780 - Served as a private under Captain Joshua Hadley and Col. Francis Locke.

Other tour, officers not named. Born on 7/8/1760 in Salisbury (Rowan County) NC.

Battles: Monck's Corner #1 (SC)
Lenud's Ferry (SC)
Little Lynches Creek (SC)
Camden (SC)
Guilford Courthouse & Fort Motte (SC)
Eutaw Springs (SC)

Source: Revolutionary War Soldiers of NC and SC (data provided by the website ***Carolana.***

Information found by Rita B. Brown on 13 Sep 2021

https://www.ourfamtree.org/soldier/search.php?state=&fname=benedict&lname=waDKINS&rank=&regiment=&keywords=&btn=Search

BROWN wh

BROWN wm frederick

Ray Martin Copley

in the U.S., Newspapers.com Obituary Index, 1800s-current

Detail | Source

Name:	Ray Martin Copley
Gender:	Male
Residence Place:	Sciotoville
Death Date:	25 Jul 1943
Death Place:	Sicily
Obituary Date:	2 Aug 1948
Obituary Place:	Newark, Ohio, USA
Newspaper Title:	The Newark Advocate
Father:	Clyde R. Copley

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Page 1

State of Kentucky
County of Floyd ss. On this 8 day of June 1857
personally appeared before me the undersigned
Judge of the Floyd County Court
Bethany Watkins aged 70 years
A resident of Floyd County and State of Kentucky
and after being duly Sworn by me according to
Law Declares that She is the Identical Bethany
Watkins the widow of Benedict Watkins
Dec'd who was a Soldier of the Revolutionary
War and who was inscribed upon the Pension
roal for his Service as A Soldier at the rate
of Eighty dollars per Annum and for further
proof of the Same She refers to the records
and to the declaration of her Husband
Benedict Watkins under which he drew
his Pension also to a Copy of the original
Certificate under which he drew and was
allowed A Pension which he drew at
Louisville Ky She further States that She
was Married to the Said Benedict Watkins
about the year ~~don't Recollect~~ at New River in
the County of ~~don't recollect~~ in the State of Virginia
and She further States that She knows of no
record Evidence that the Can procure of
her Marriage as She was Travelling and was
Married while on her Journey to the west
ern Country and Cannot recollect the Name
of the Person who Solemnized the rites of
Matrimony and that She has lived with her
Husband Benedict Watkins and has raised
A Large Family of Children together in the
County and State aforesaid the Names and ages

1

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2

are as follows to wit James Wadkins Sylvester Wadkins Thomas Wadkins Barnett Wadkins Elesabeth Wadkins Rebecca Wadkins Polly Wadkins and that her Husband Barnabas Wadkins died in the County of Floyd and State of Kentucky on the 29 day of May 1852 and that She has never intermarried since his death but Still remains a widow and that She now resides in the County of Floyd in the State of Kentucky and has resided there for the Space of 30 years and previous to that time She resided in the State of Virginia and She makes this Declaration for the purpose of obtaining the Pension and Bounty Land to which She may be Entitled for her Husband Services She States that her Husband never drew any Land warrant or made any application for it as She knows of nor has She ever made any Declaration for Pension or Bounty Land but the one She now makes

Barbary her Wadkins Decd
mark

State of Kentucky
County of Floyd

Sworn to and Subscribed before me Lindsey Layne Presiding Justice for Floyd County by Barbary Wadkins this 6th day of June 1857 and I Certify that I believe the applicant to be the Identical person She represents her Self to be and that I have no interest in the Claim Given under my hand this day and year above Written

Lindsey Layne PJ F C

2

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3

War Department
Revolutionary Claims

I Certify that in Conformity with the Laws of the United States of the 7th of June 1832 Bennett Watkins of the State of Kentucky who was A Private in the Army of the Revolution is Entitled to Eighty dollars per Annum during his Natural life Commencing on the 4th of March 1831 and payable Semi annually on the 4th of March and 11th of September in Every Year. Given at the War Office of the United States This 21 day of June one Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty Three

John L Poinsett Secretary of War
Washington City

Examined and
Countersigned
J. L. Edwards
Commissioner of Pensions

State of Kentucky }
County of Hardin } I Certify that the above Certificate is A True Copy of an original Certificate now in the hands of Barbary Watkins the Widow of Bennett Watkins Given under my Hand This 6 day of April 1857

Lindsey Layne P. J. H. Co

3

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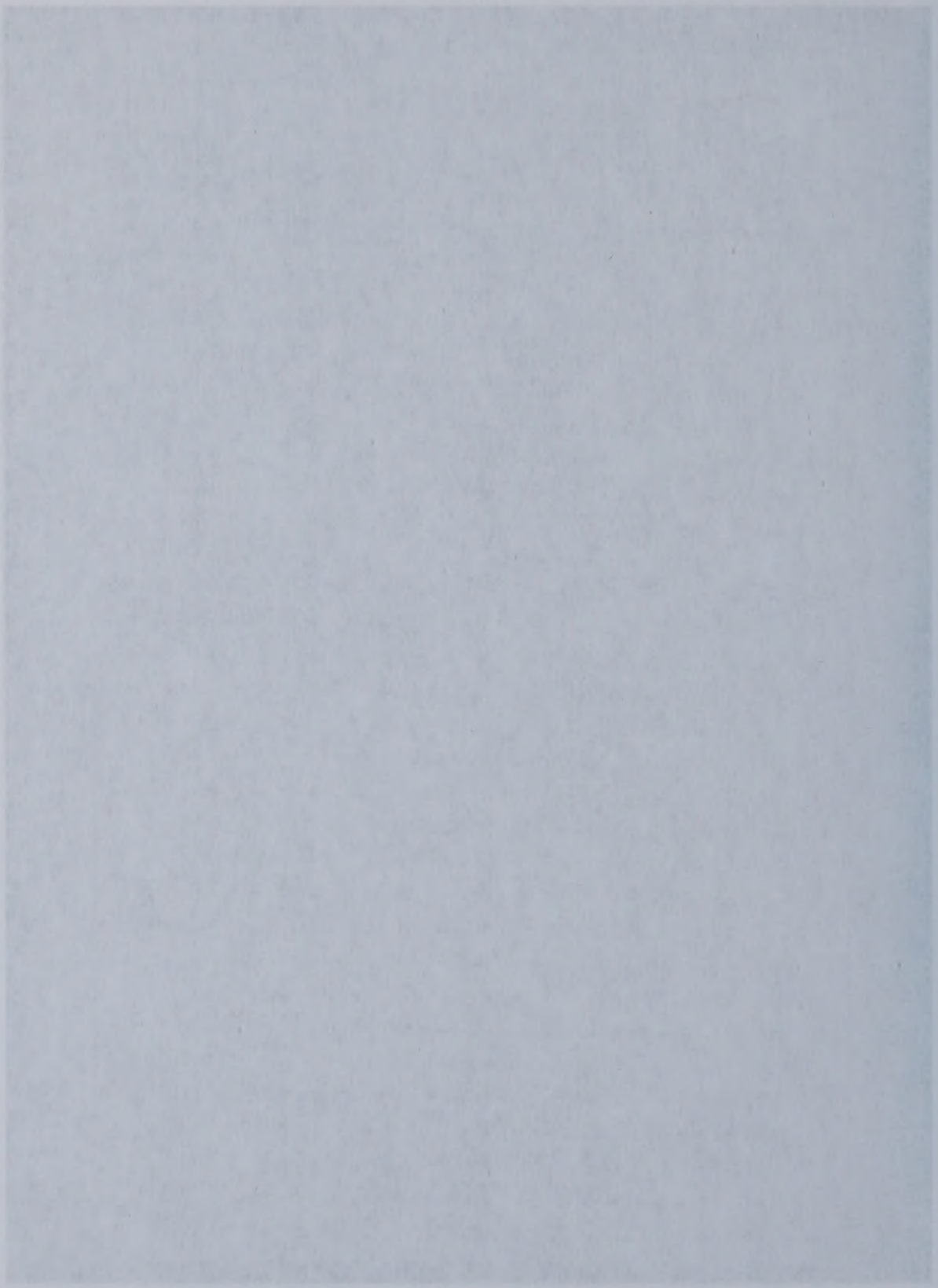
Page 1

State of Kentucky }
County of Floyd } ss On this 8 day of June 1857
personally appeared before me the undersigned
Judge of the Floyd County Court
Barbary Watkins aged 70 years
a resident of Floyd County and State of Kentucky
and after being duly sworn by me according to
Law Declares that She is the Widow of Benedict Watkins
the Widow of Benedict Watkins
Dec'd who was a Soldier of the Revolutionary
War and who was inscribed upon the Pension
roll for his Services as a Soldier at the rate
of Eighty dollars per Annum and for further
proof of the same She refers to the records
and to the Declaration of her Husband
Benedict Watkins under which he drew
his Pension also to a Copy of the original
Certificate upon which he proved and was
allowed a Pension which he drew at
Louisville Ky She further States that She
was Married to the Said Benedict Watkins
about the year 1811 at New River in
the County of Montgomery in the State of Virginia
and She further States that She knows of no
record Evidence that She can procure of
her Marriage as She was Travelling and was
Married while on her Journey to the West
then Country and cannot recollect the Name
of the Justice who Solemnized the rites of
Matrimony and that She has lived with her
Husband Benedict Watkins and has raised
a Large family of Children together in the
County and State aforesaid and the Names and ye



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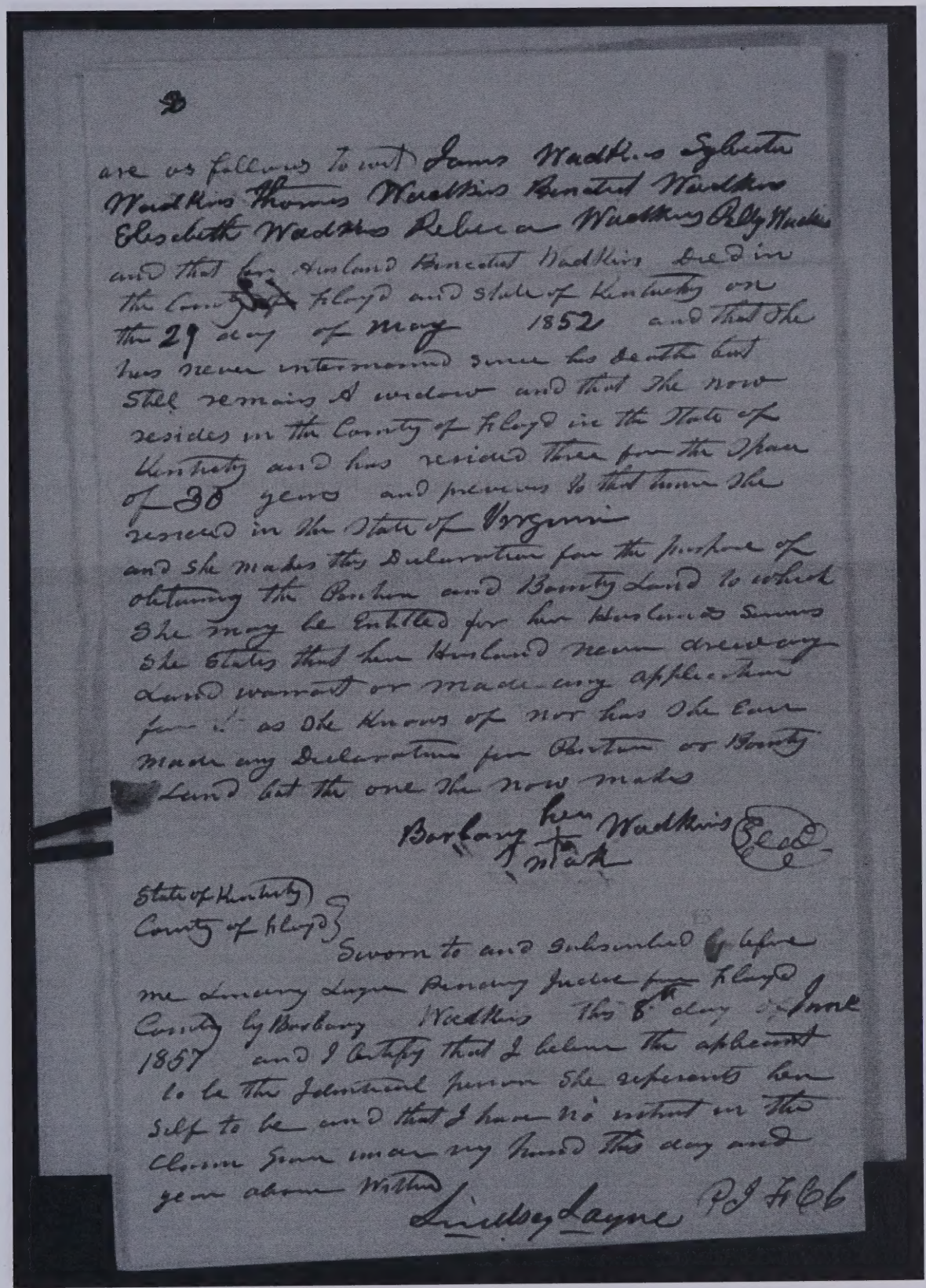

2

are as follows to wit James Wadkins Sylvester Wadkins Thomas Wadkins Benedict Wadkins Elisabeth Wadkins Rebecca Wadkins Polly Wadkins and that her Husband Benedict Wadkins died in the County of Floyd and State of Kentucky on the 29 day of May 1852 and that She has never intermarried since his death but Still remains a widow and that She now resides in the County of Floyd in the State of Kentucky and has resided there for the Space of 30 years and previous to that time She resided in the State of Virginia and She makes this Declaration for the purpose of obtaining the Pension and Bounty Land to which She may be Entitled for her Husband Services She States that her Husband never drew any Land warrant or made any application for it as She knows of nor has She ever made any Declaration for Pension or Bounty Land but the one She now makes

Barbary her Wadkins
X mark

State of Kentucky
County of Floyd } Sworn to and Subscribed before me Lindsey Layne Presiding Justice for Floyd County by Barbary Wadkins this 8th day of June 1857 and I Certify that I believe the applicant to be the Identical person She represents herself to be and that I have no interest in the Claim from making my Signed this day and year above Written

Lindsey Layne PJ Flo Co

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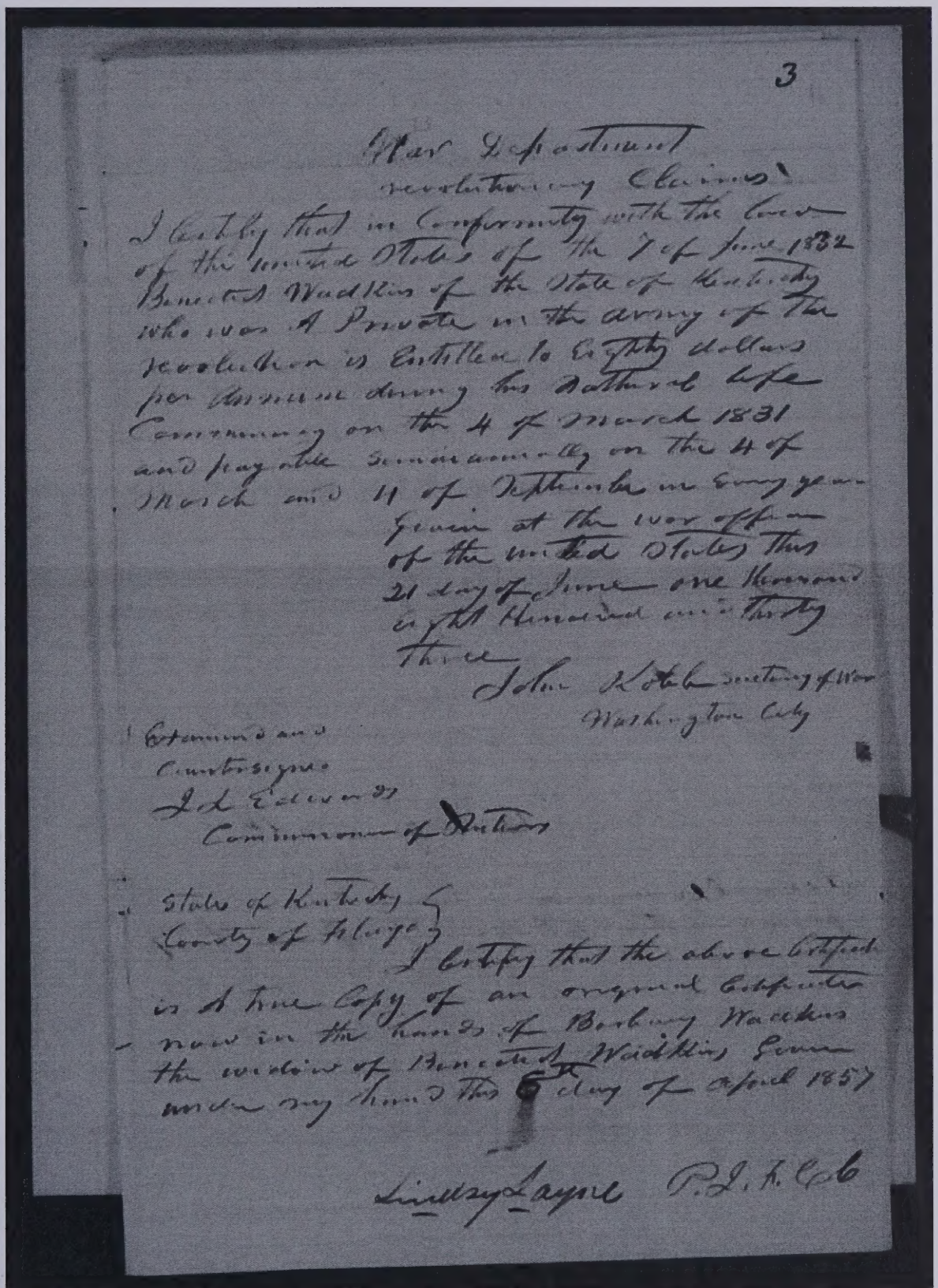

3

War Department
revolutionary Claims

I Certify that in Conformity with the Laws of the United States of the 7th of June 1832 Benedict Waddkins of the State of Kentucky who was A Private in the army of the revolution is Entitled to Eighty dollars per Annum during his natural life Commencing on the 4 of March 1831 and payable Semiannually on the 4 of March and 11 of September in Every year Given at the City of the United States this 21 day of June one thousand eight Hundred and thirty three

John Kotch Secretary of War
Washington City

Examined and
Countersigned
Jos Ellicott
Commissioner of Pensions

State of Kentucky }
County of Allegre }

I Certify that the above Certificate is A true Copy of an original Certificate now in the hands of Barbary Waddkins the widow of Benedict Waddkins Given under my hand this 6 day of April 1857

Lindsey Layne P.J.A.C.C.

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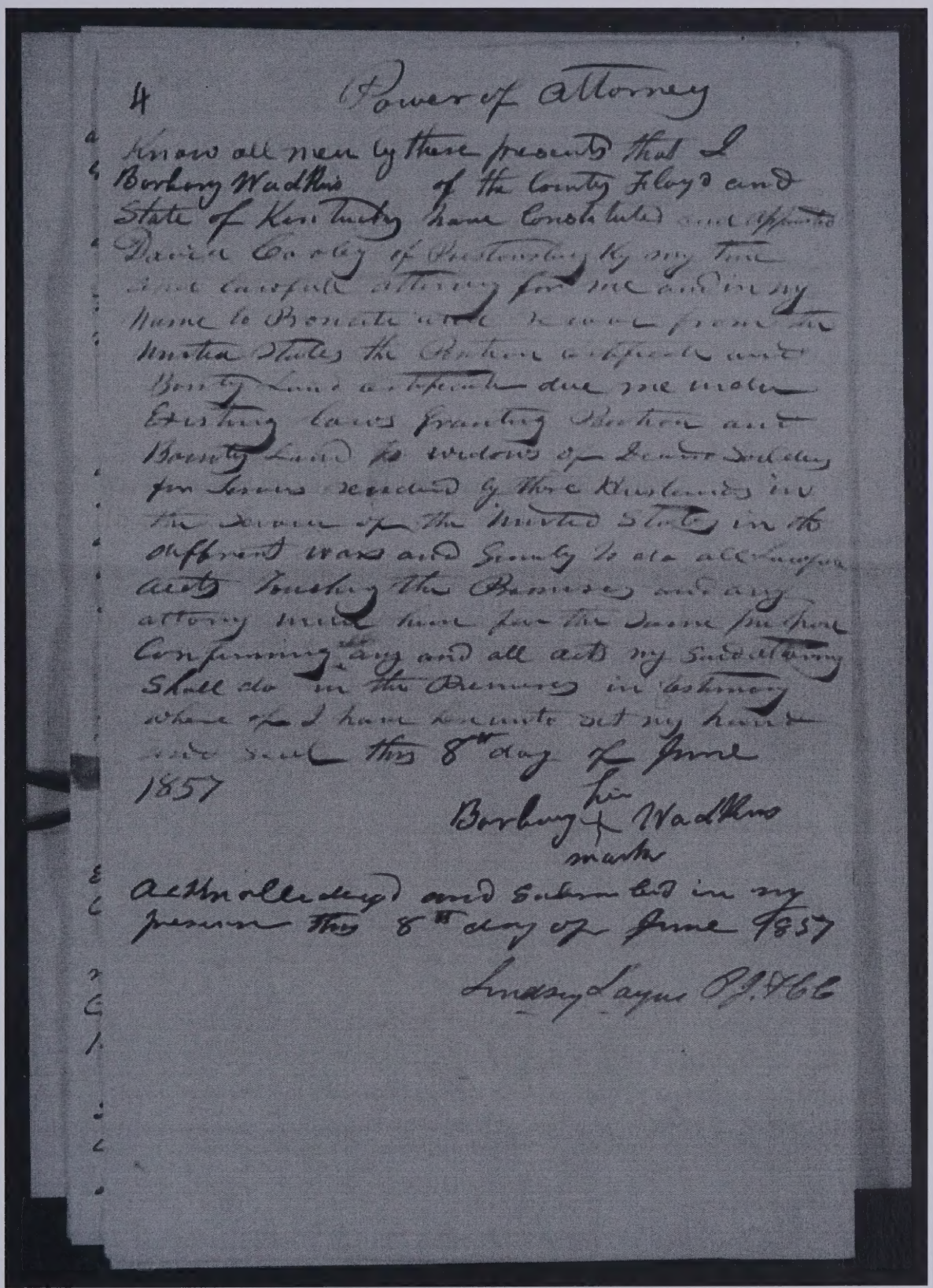


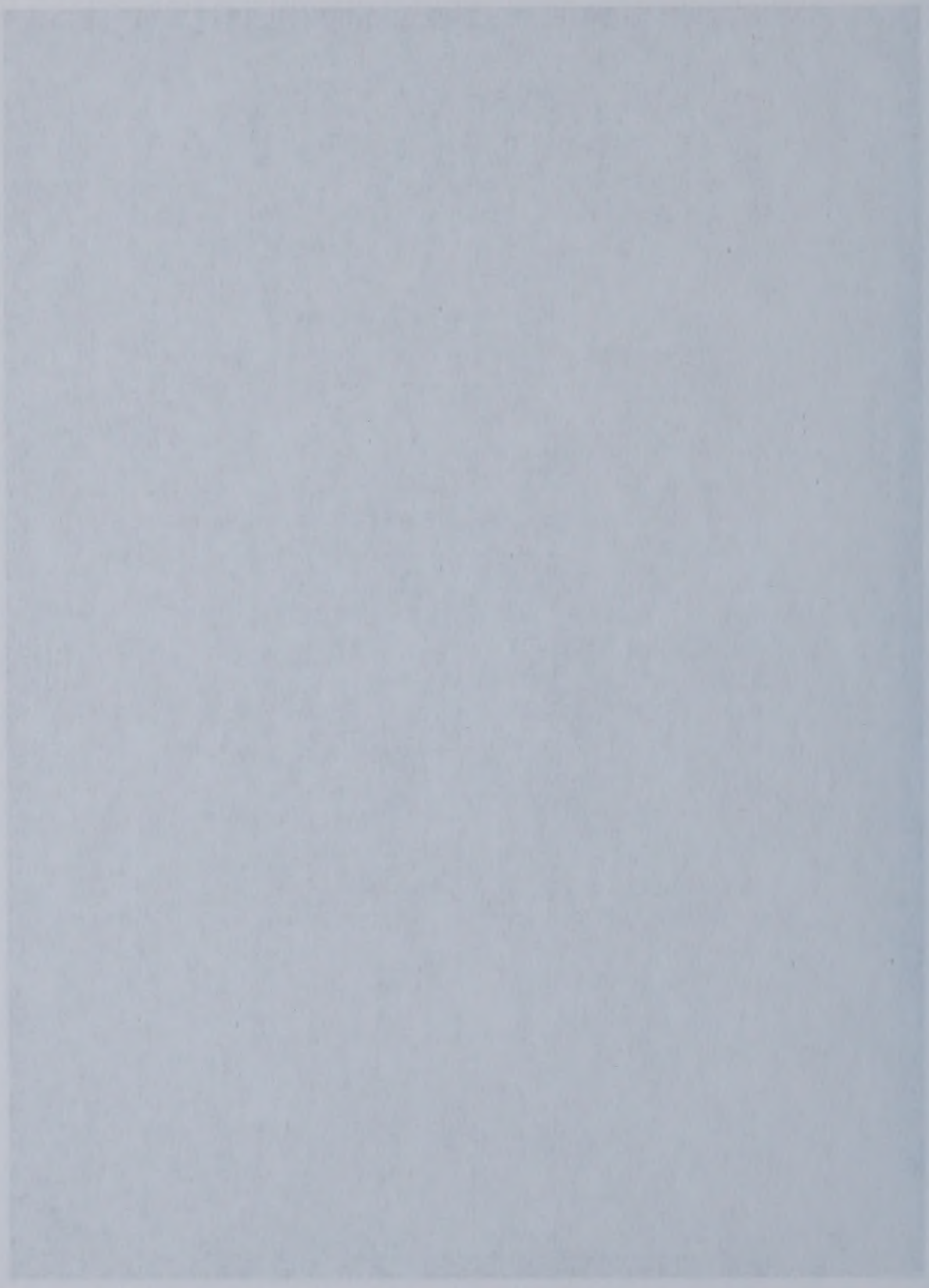
4 Power of Attorney

Know all men by these presents that I Borbury Wadkins of the County Floyd and State of Kentucky have Constituted and appointed David Cooley of Pikeville Ky my true and lawful attorney for me and in my name to Prosecute and recover from the United States the Pension & Bounty Land & Pension due me under Existing laws granting Pension and Bounty Land to widows of Deceased Soldiers for Services rendered by there Husbands in the Service of the United States in the different wars and Country to ala allowances and Touching the Premises and any attorny must have for the same perfect Confirming & ratifying and all acts my said attorny Shall do in the Premises in testimony where of I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 8th day of June 1857

Borbury his + Wadkins mark

Acknolledged and Subscribed in my presence this 8th day of June 1857

Lindsey Layne J.P.K.C.



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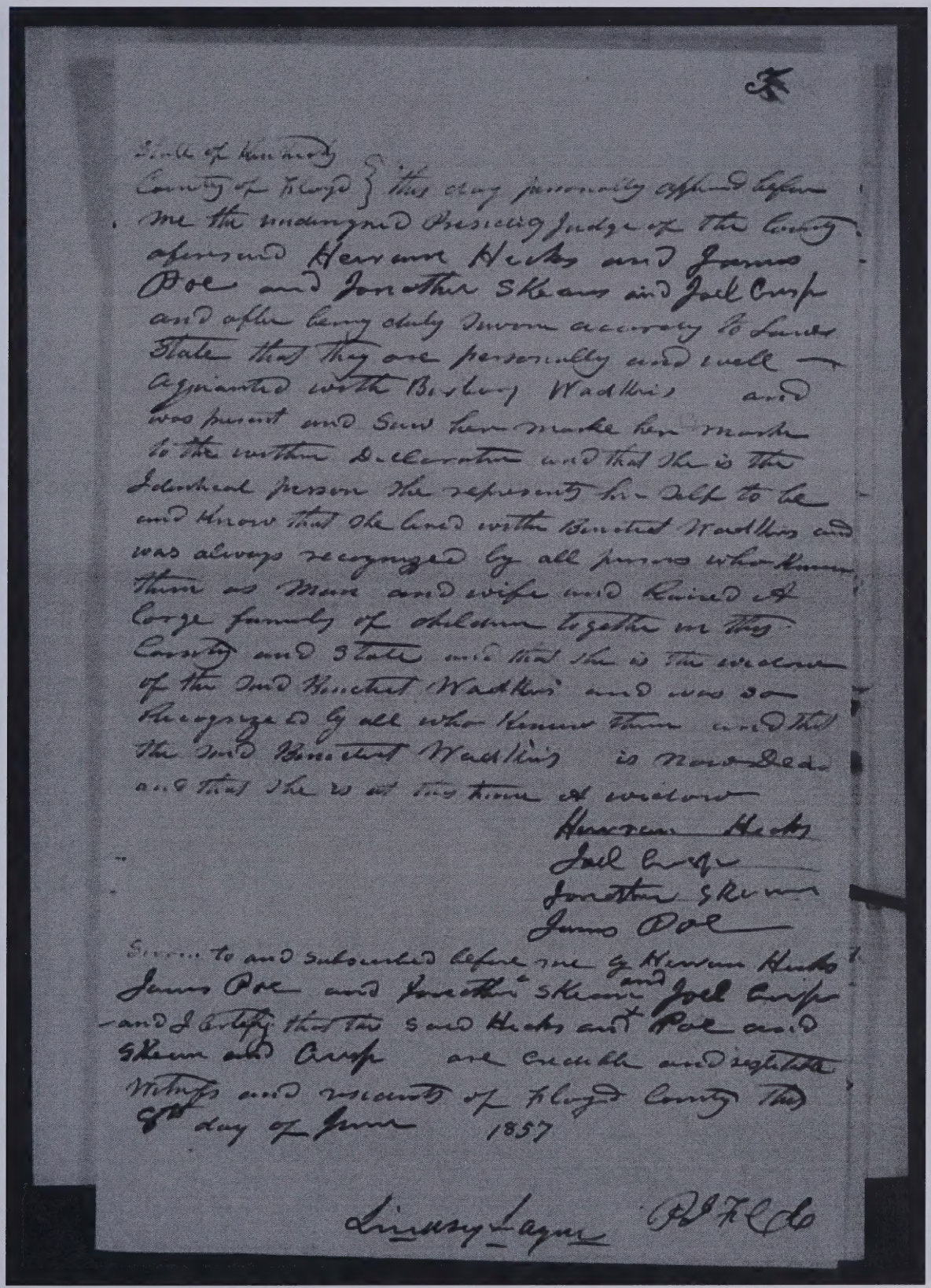

State of Kentucky
County of Floyd } This day personally appeared before
me the undersigned Presiding Judge of the County
aforesaid Hewson Hicks and James
Poe and Jonathan Skeans and Joel Crisp
and after being duly Sworn according to Law
State that they are personally and well —
Acquainted with Berkley Watkins and
was present and Saw him make his mark
to the within Declaration and that he is the
Identical person he represents himself to be
and know that he lived with Benedict Watkins and
was always recognized by all persons who knew
them as Man and wife and Raised a
Large family of children together in this
County and State and that she is the widow
of the said Benedict Watkins and was so
Recognized by all who knew them and that
the said Benedict Watkins is now dead
and that she is at this time of sound

Hewson Hicks
Joel Crisp
Jonathan Skeans
James Poe

Sworn to and subscribed before me by Hewson Hicks
James Poe and Jonathan Skeans and Joel Crisp
and I certify that the said Hicks and Poe and
Skeans and Crisp are credible and disinterested
Witness and residents of Floyd County this
8th day of June 1857

Linsey Layne P.J.F.C.C.

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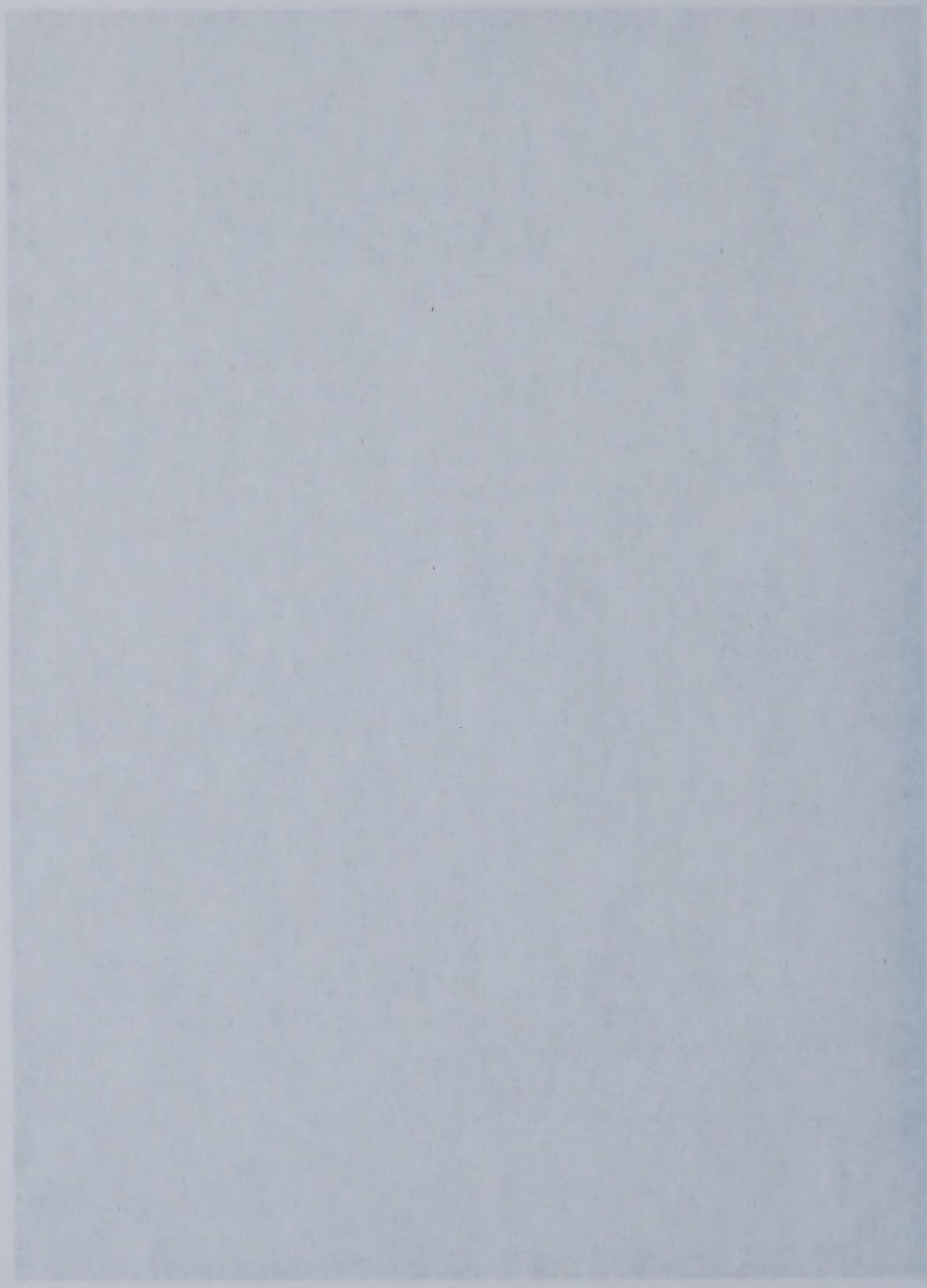

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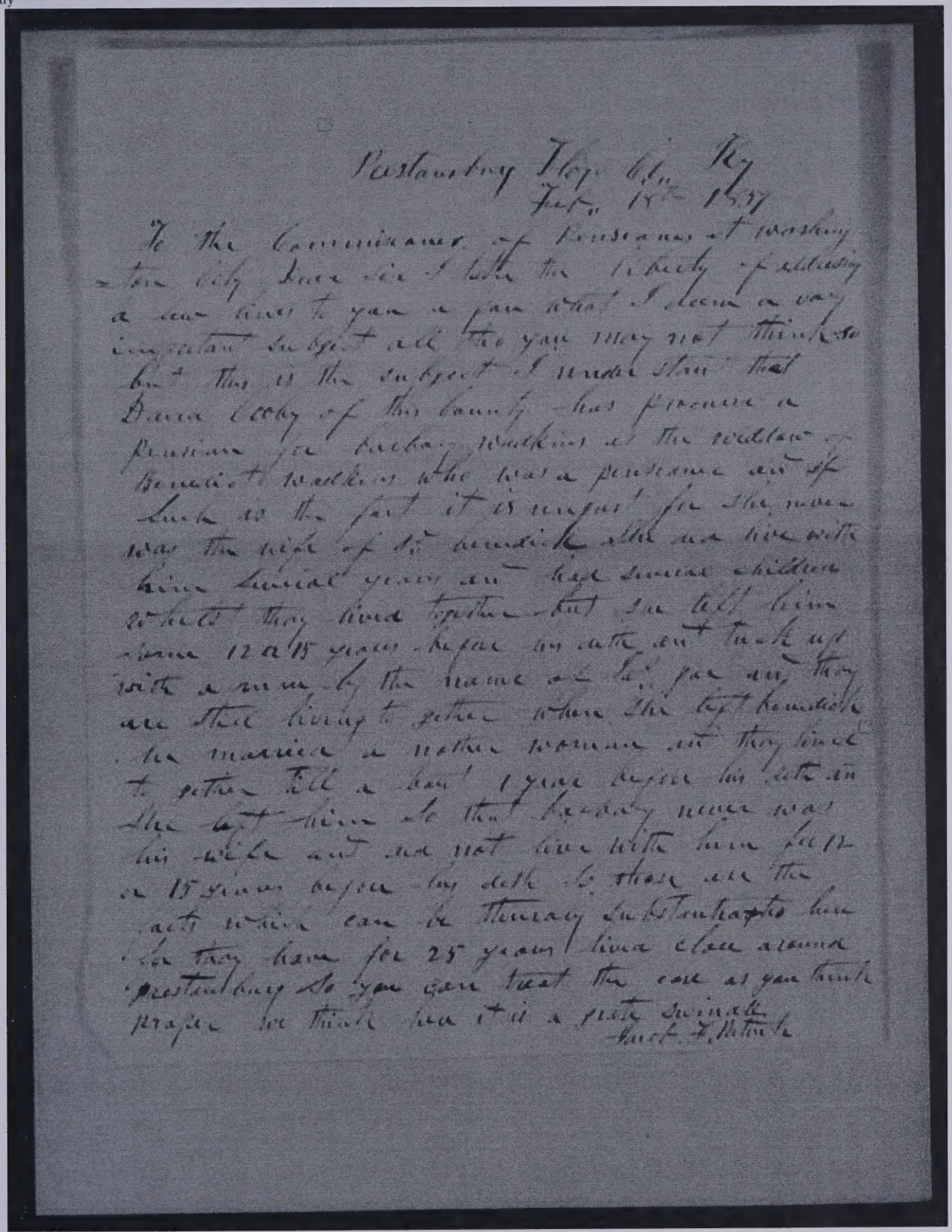

Portsmouth Ohio Ky
Feb 18th 1837

To the Commissioner of Pensions at Washington City Dear Sir I take the liberty of addressing a few lines to you on a subject I deem a very important one but all that you may not think so but this is the subject I understand that Daniel Cooley of this county has procured a Pension for Zachary Watkins at the rate of Bounty & Walking the last a pension agent of such as the fact it is reported for the reason was the wife of Mr Hendrick who was living with him Several years ago had several children & that they lived together but he left him about 12 or 15 years before on date and took up with a man by the name of Lee for any thing we still living to gether when Lee left Hendricks he married a notherwoman & they lived together till a short time before his death & the last time he saw Hendrick since was his wife and she got him with him 12 or 15 years before his death & there are the facts which can be proven by substantial men & they have for 25 years lived close around Portsmouth so you can treat the case as you think proper we think him not a proper pensioner

Yours &c Watkins

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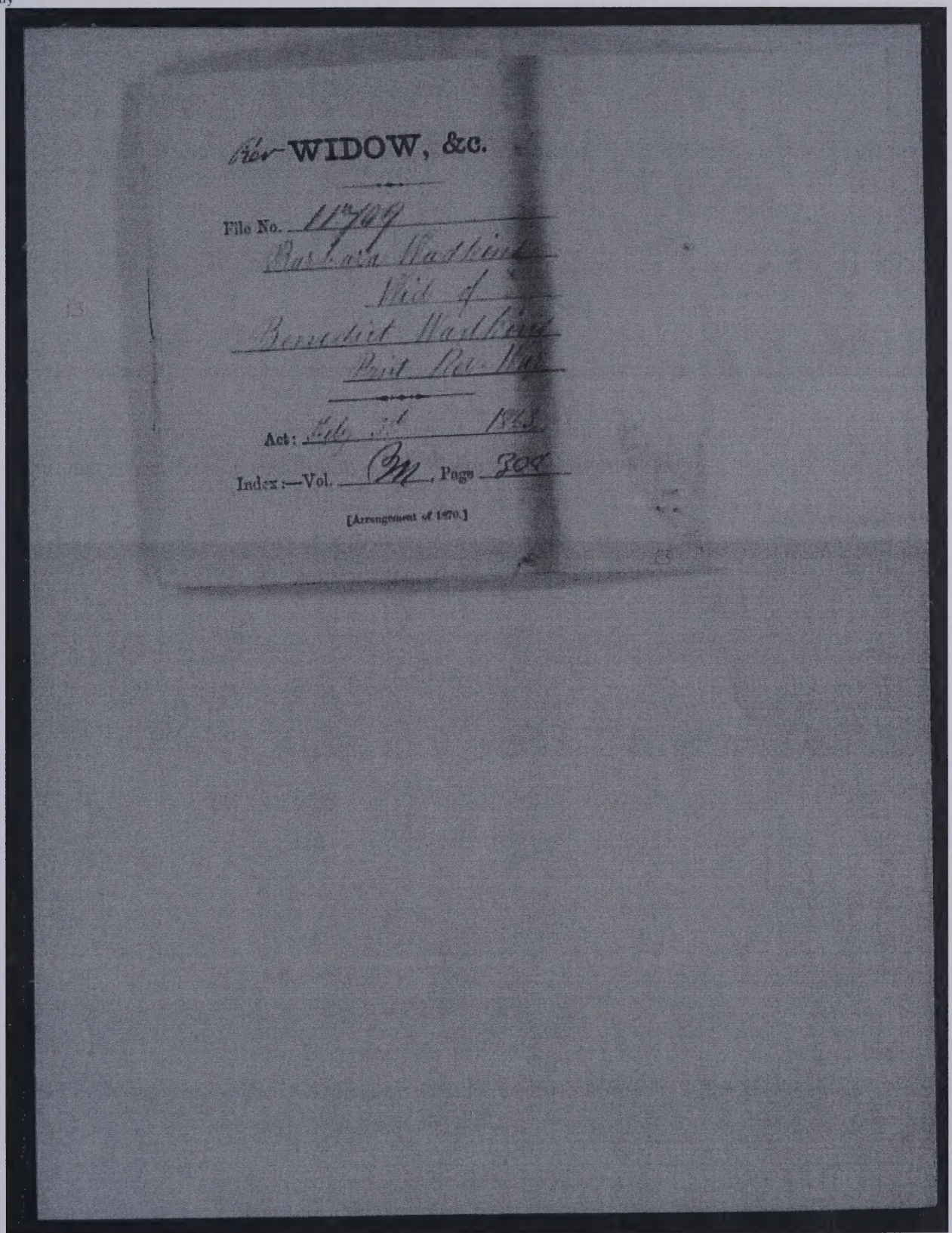

WIDOW, &c.

File No. 11709

Barbara Mathias

Wid of

Benedict Mathias

Pvt Rev War

Act: July 4 1836

Index:—Vol. M, Page 204

[Arrangement of 1870.]

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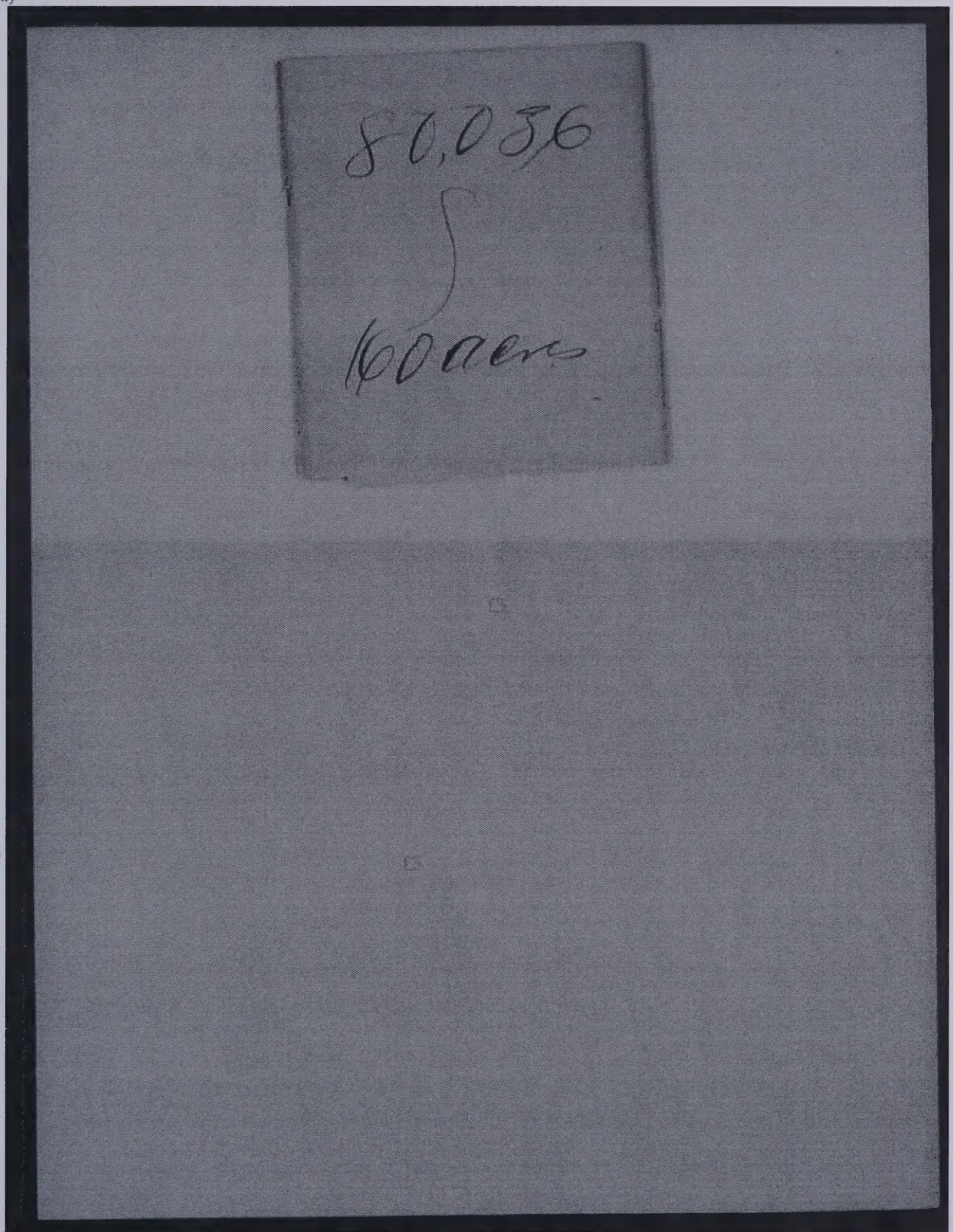

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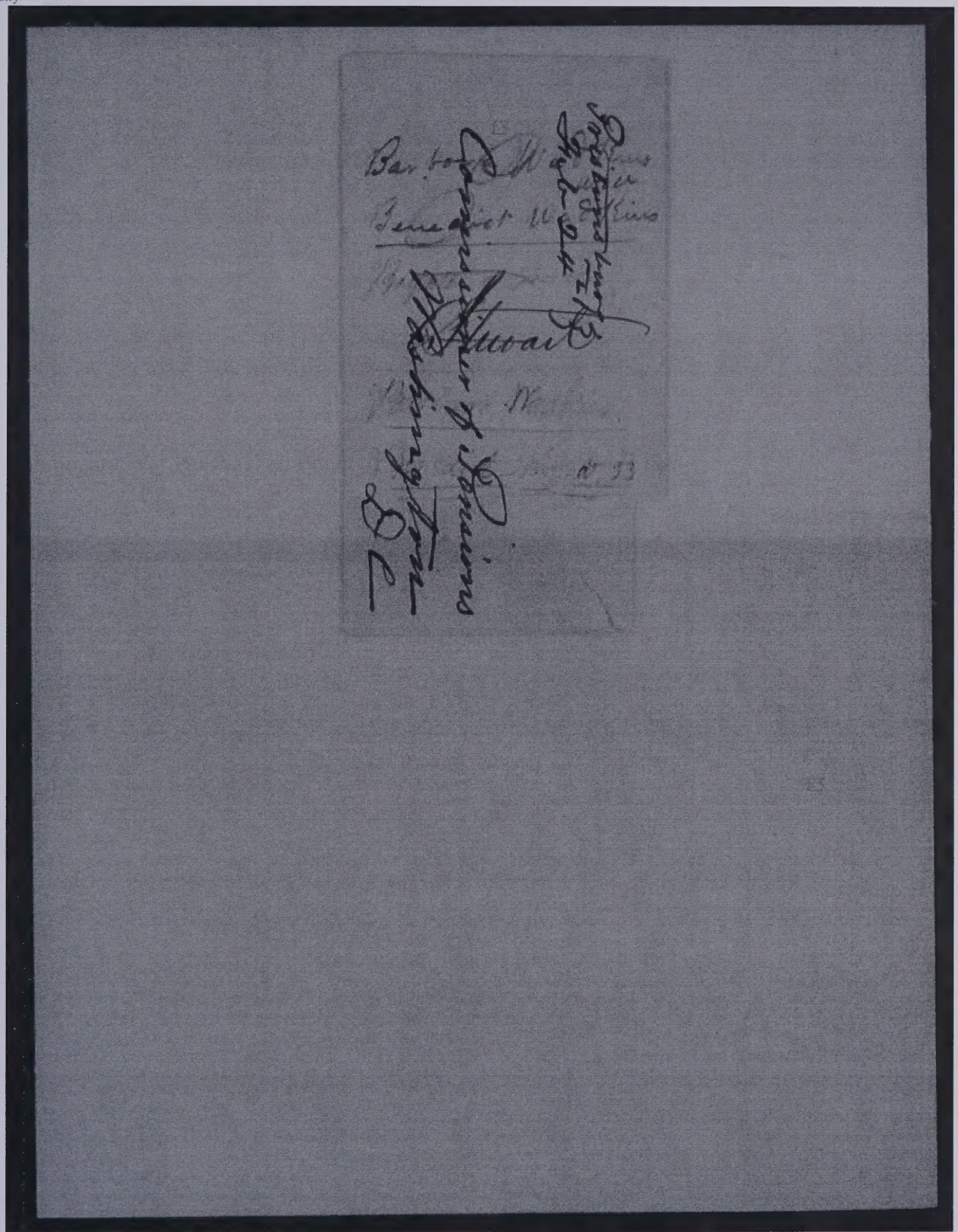

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Page 1

State of Kentucky }
County of Floyd } ss On this 8 day of June 1857
personally appeared before me the undersigned
Judge of the Floyd County Court
Barbary Waddles aged 72 years
A resident of Floyd County and State of Kentucky
and after being duly Sworn by me according to
Law Declares that She is the Identical Barbary
Waddles the Widow of Benedict Waddles
Dec'd who was a Soldier of the Revolutionary
War and who was inscribed upon the Pension
rool for his Services as a Soldier at the rate
of Eighty dollars per Annum and for further
proof of the Same She refers to the records
and to the Declaration of her Husband
Benedict Waddles under which he drew
his Pension also to a Copy of the original
Certificate under which he drew and was
Allowed a Pension which he drew at
Louisville Ky She further States that She
was Married to the Said Benedict Waddles
about the year dont recollect at New river in
the County of dont recollect in the State of Virginia
and She further States that She knows of no
record Evidence that She can procure of
her Marriage as She was Travelling and was
Married while on her Journey to the west
from County and Cannot recollect the Name
of the Person who Solemnized the rites of
Matrimony and that She has lived with her
Husband Benedict Waddles and has raised
A Large Family of Children together in the
County and State aforesaid the Names and ye

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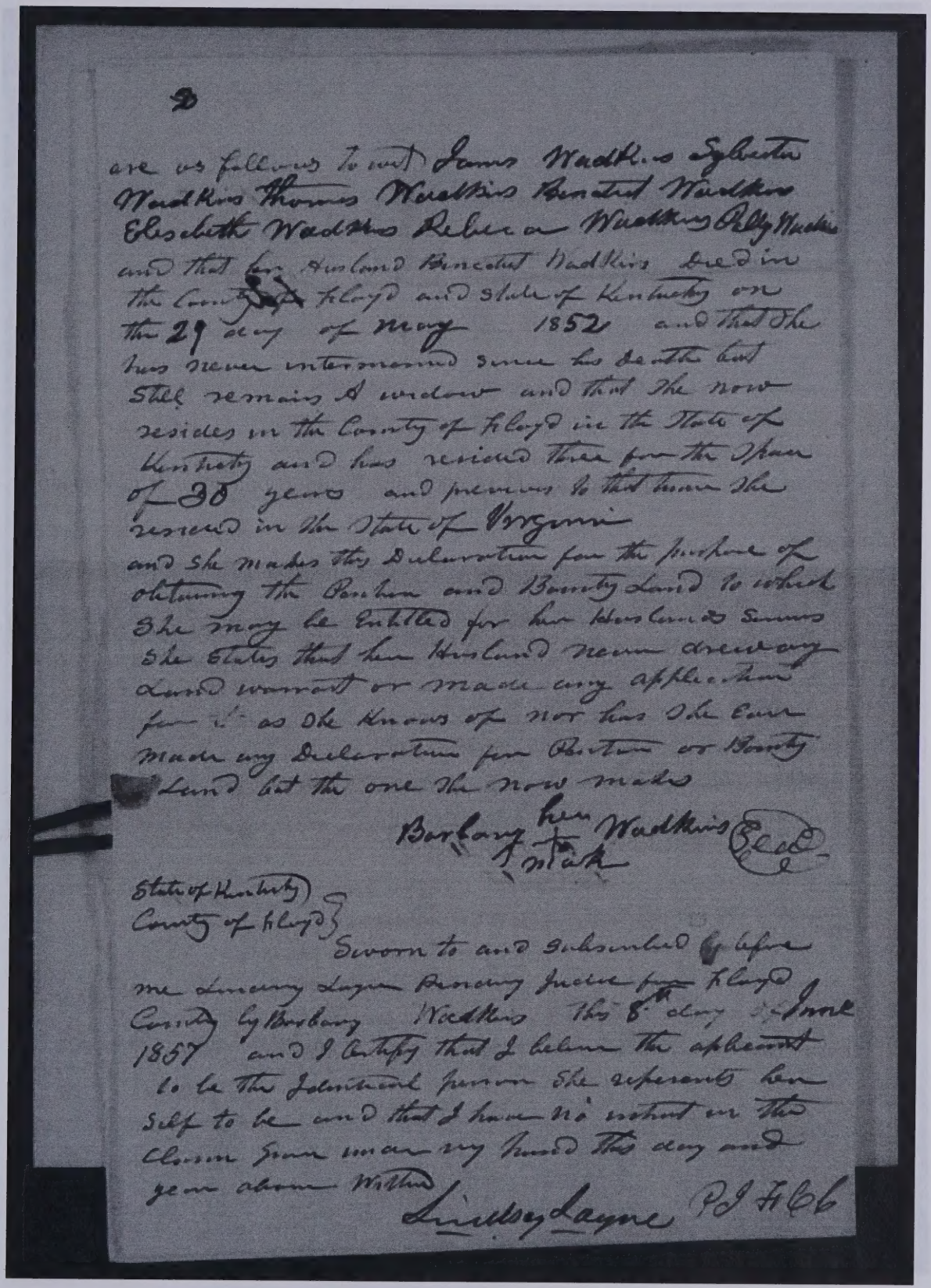

D

are as follows to wit James Wadkins Sylvester Wadkins Thomas Wadkins Benedict Wadkins Elizabeth Wadkins Rebecca Wadkins Polly Wadkins and that her husband Vincent Wadkins died in the County of Floyd and State of Kentucky on the 29 day of May 1852 and that She has never intermarried since his death but Still remains A widow and that She now resides in the County of Floyd in the State of Kentucky and has resided there for the Space of 30 years and previous to that time She resided in the State of Virginia and She makes this Declaration for the purpose of obtaining the Pension and Bounty Land to which She may be Entitled for her Husband Services She States that her Husband never drew any Land warrant or made any application for it as She knows of nor has She ever made any Declaration for Pension or Bounty Land but the one She now makes

Barbary her + mark Wadkins

State of Kentucky
County of Floyd

Sworn to and Subscribed before me Linsey Layne Acting Justice for Floyd County by Barbary Wadkins this 8th day of June 1857 and I Certify that I believe the applicant to be the Identical person She represents her Self to be and that I have no interest in the Claim from in or by my Signed this day and year above Written

Linsey Layne PJ F66

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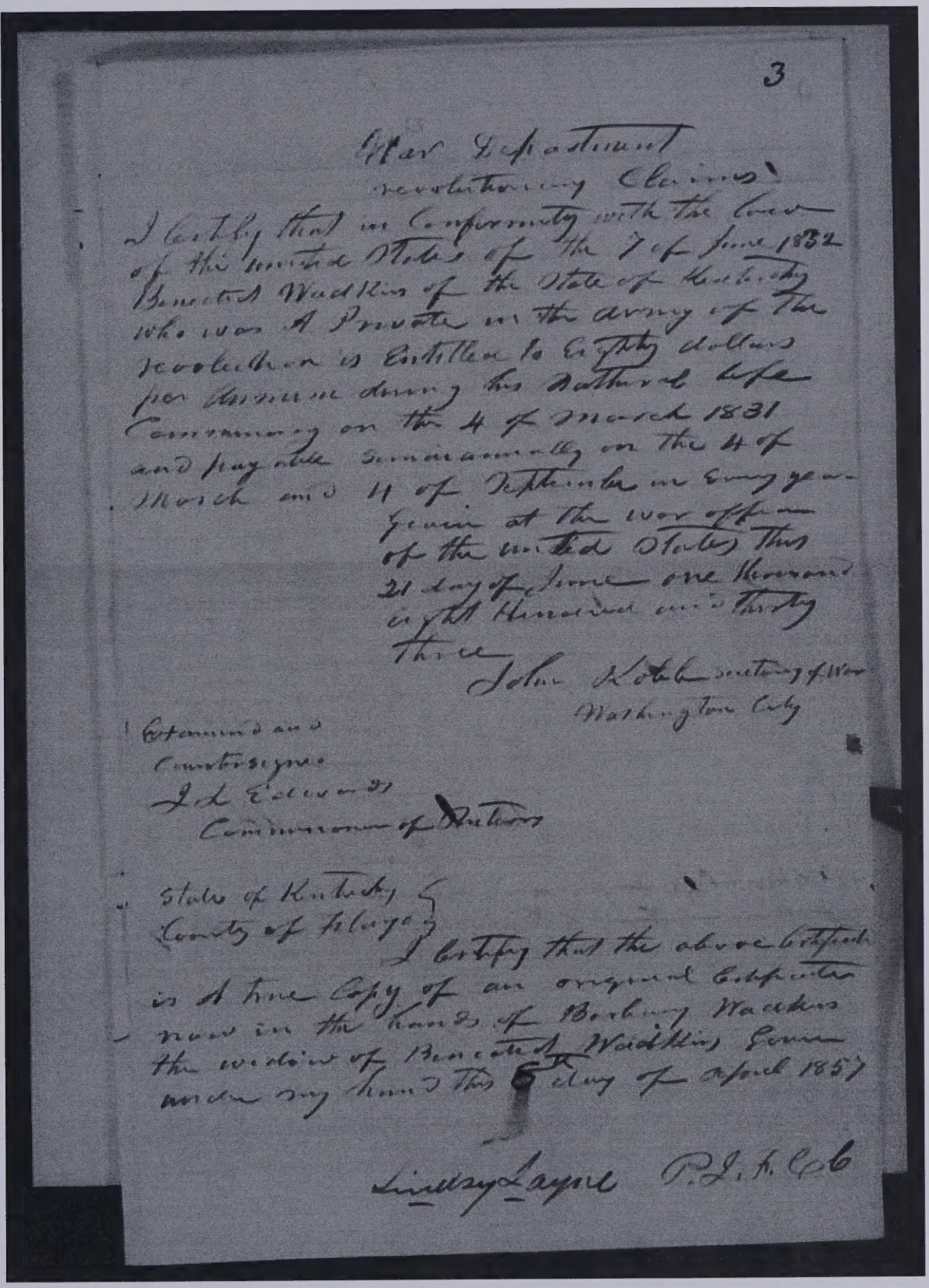

3

War Department
revolutionary Claims

I Certify that in Conformity with the Laws of the United States of the 7 of June 1832 Benedict Watkins of the State of Kentucky who was A Private in the army of the revolution is Entitled to Eighty dollars per Annum during his natural life Commencing on the 4 of March 1831 and payable Semiannually on the 4 of March and 4 of September in Every year Given at the War Office of the United States this 21 day of June one Thousand eight Hundred and thirty three

John Kobb Secretary of War
Washington City

Examined and
Countersigned
J. L. Edwards
Commissioner of Pensions

State of Kentucky }
County of Hart } I Certify that the above Certificate is A true Copy of an original Certificate now in the hands of Benedict Watkins the widow of Benedict Watkins Given under my hand this 6 day of April 1857

Lindsey Layne P.J.H.C.C.

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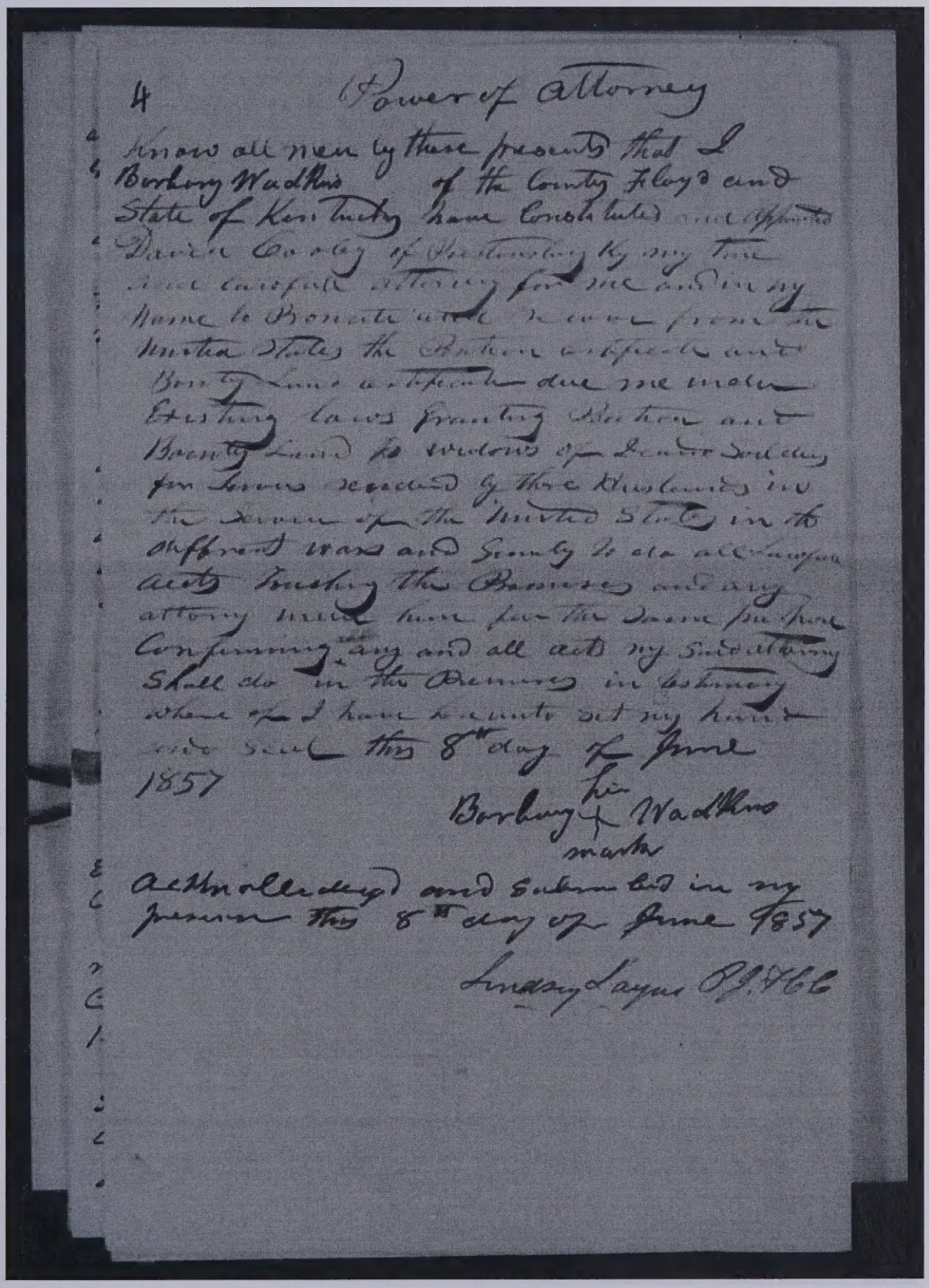


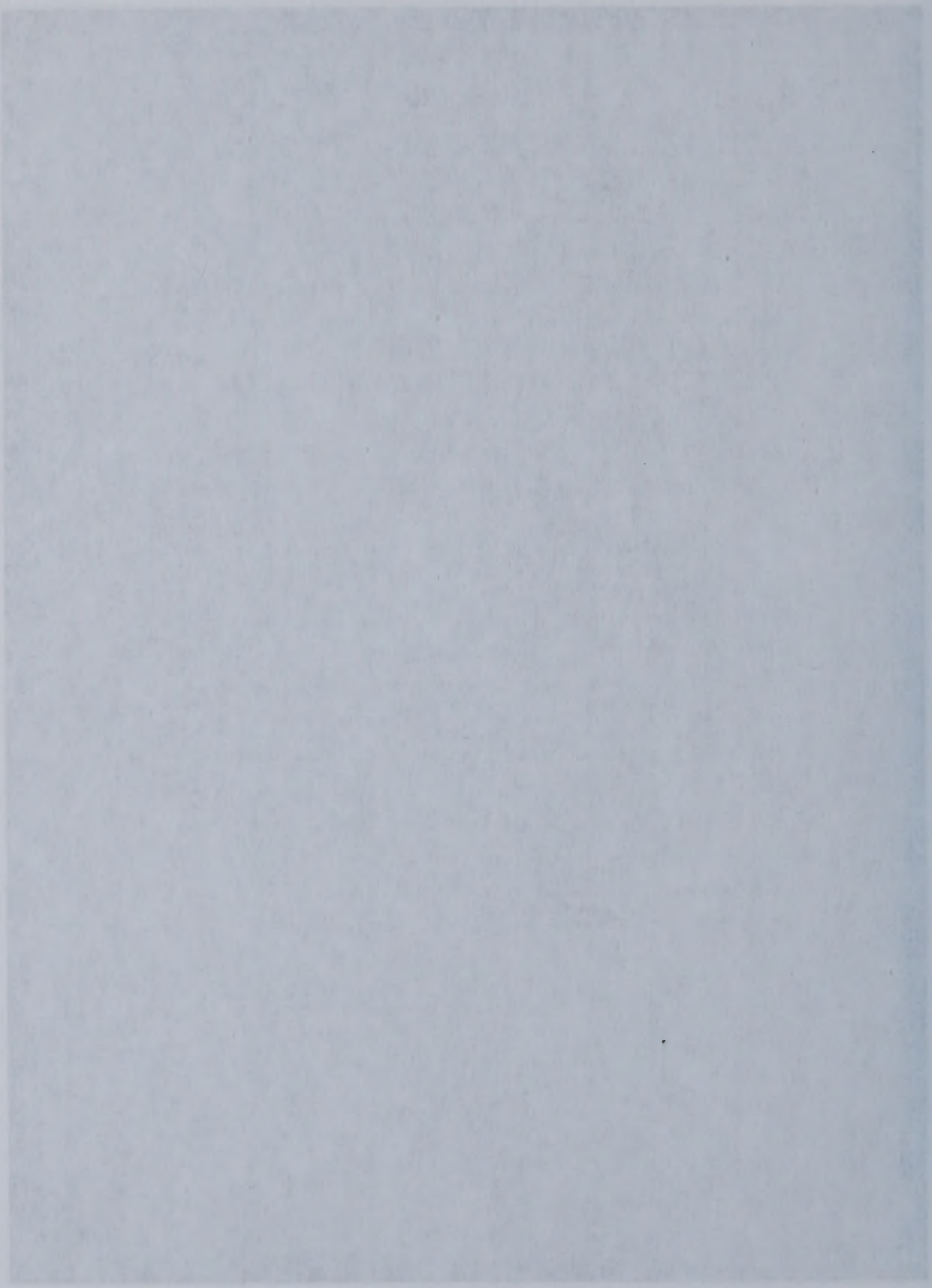
4 Power of Attorney

Know all men by these presents that I Borbury Wadkins of the County Floyd and State of Kentucky have Constituted and Appointed Darien Conley of the County by my true and lawful Attorney for me and in my Name to Prosecute and recover from the United States the Pension & Bounty Land & Pensions due me under Existing laws granting Pension and Bounty Land to Widows of Deceased Soldiers for Services rendered by their Husbands in the Service of the United States in the Different Wars and Country & also all Supplemental acts touching the Premises and my attorney hereby for the Same pursuant Conferring upon my said Attorney Shall do in the Premises in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this 8th day of June 1857

Borbury his + Wadkins
mark

Acknowledged and Subscribed in my presence this 8th day of June 1857

Lindsey Layne J.P.V.C.



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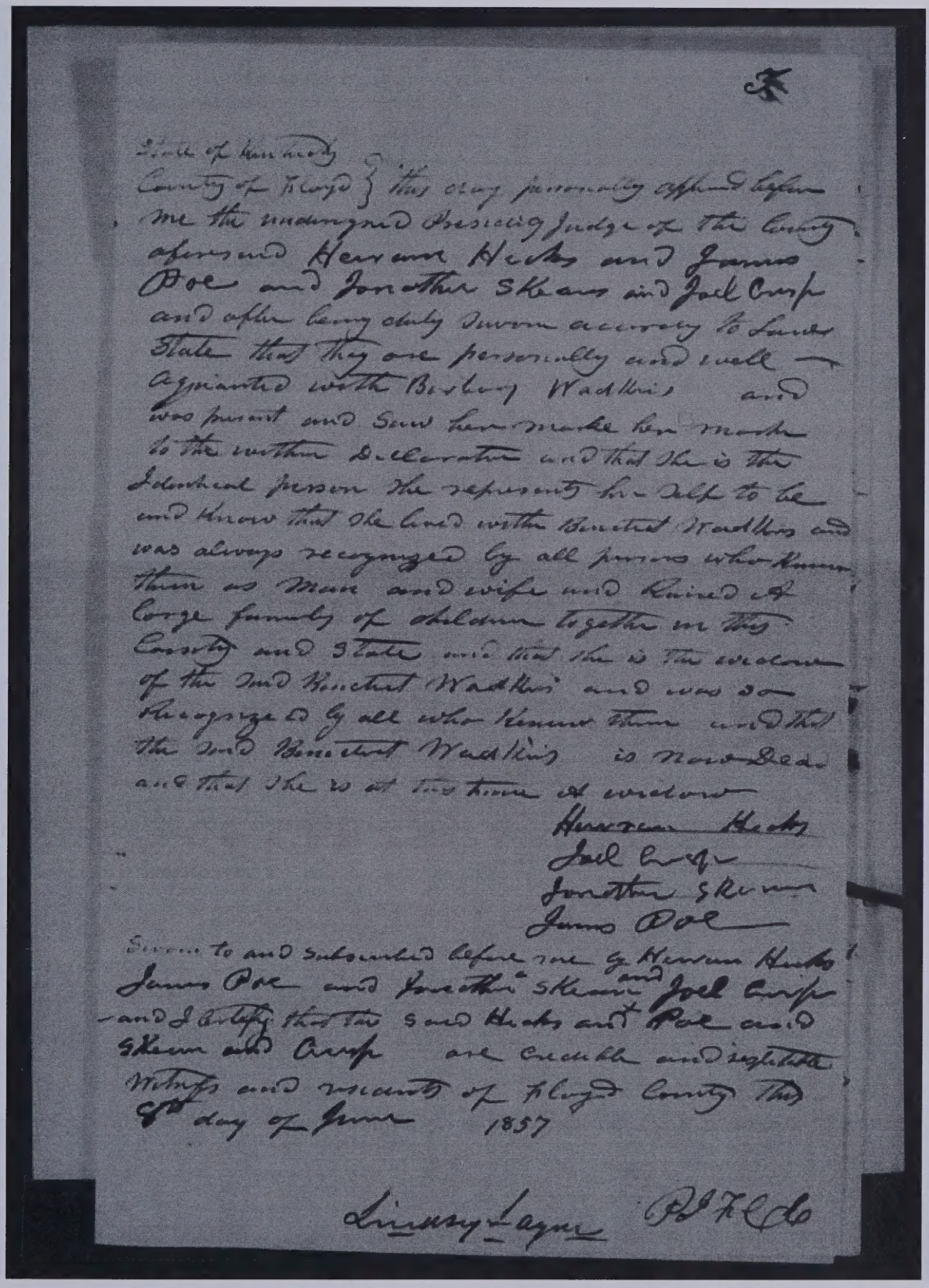
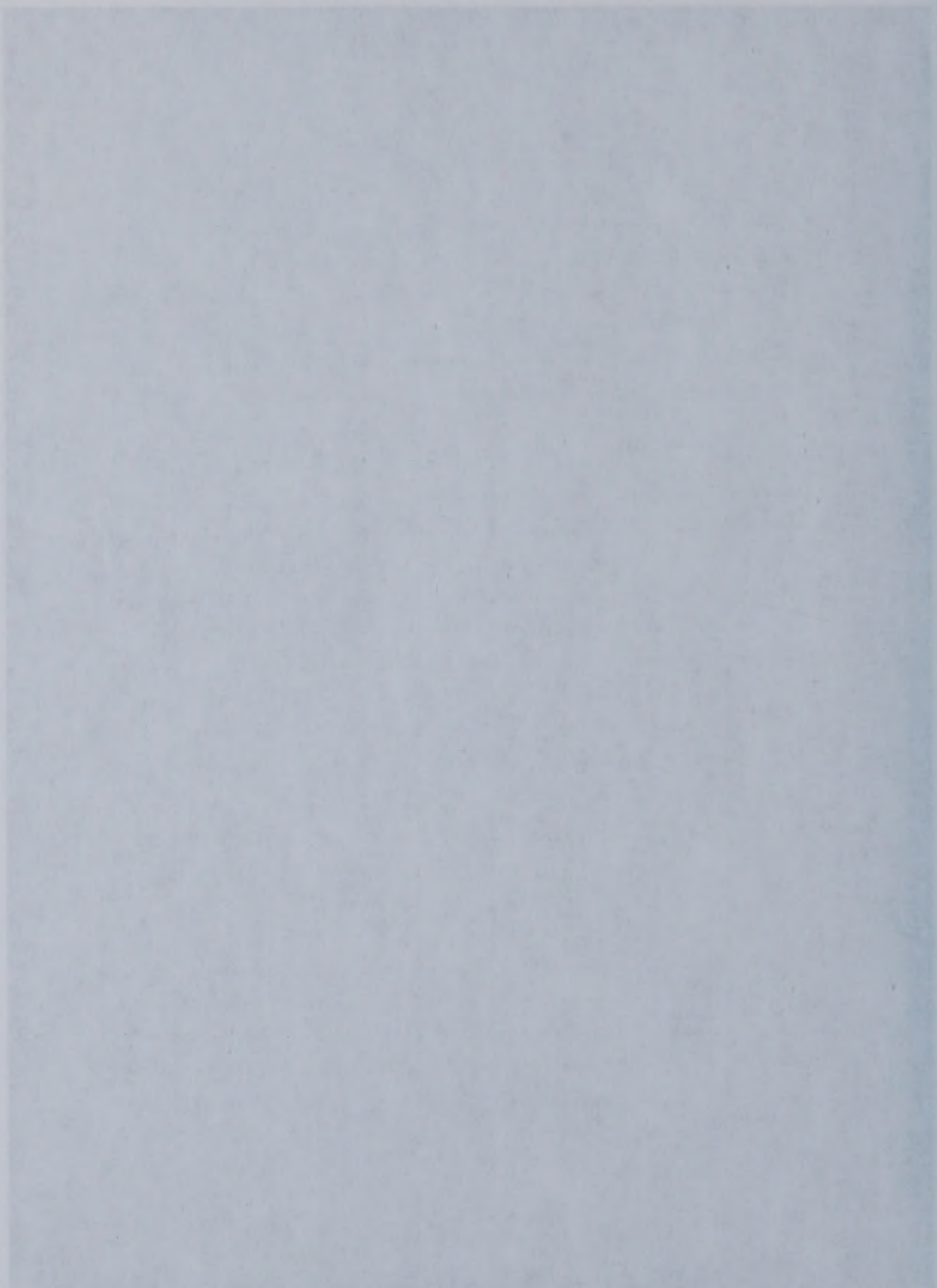


State of Kentucky
County of Floyd } this day personally appeared before
me the undersigned presiding Judge of the County
aforesaid Hewson Hicks and James
Poe and Jonathan Skeens and Joel Crisp
and after being duly sworn according to Law
State that they are personally and well
acquainted with Berkery Wadkins and
was present and saw him make his mark
to the within Declaration and that he is the
identical person he represents himself to be
and know that he and with Reuben Wadkins and
was always recognized by all persons who knew
them as Man and wife and raised a
large family of children together in this
County and State and that she is the widow
of the said Reuben Wadkins and was so
recognized by all who knew them and that
the said Reuben Wadkins is now dead
and that she is at this time a widow

Hewson Hicks
Joel Crisp
Jonathan Skeens
James Poe

Sworn to and subscribed before me by Hewson Hicks
James Poe and Jonathan Skeens and Joel Crisp
and I certify that the said Hicks and Poe and
Skeens and Crisp are credible and disinterested
Witnesses and residents of Floyd County this
6th day of June 1857

Linsey Layne P.J.F.C.



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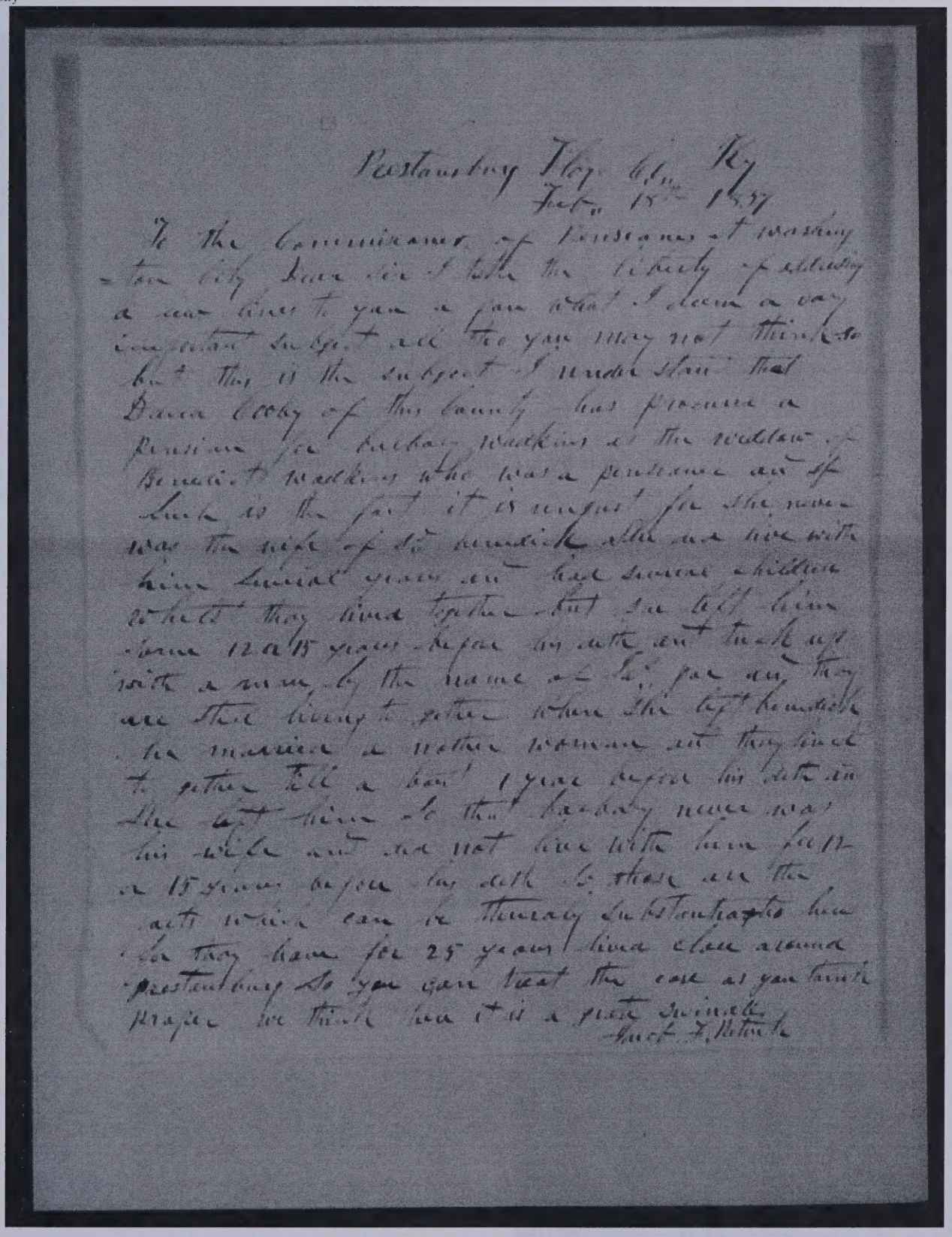

Prestonsburg Floyd Co Ky
Feb 15th 1837

To the Commissioner of Pensions at Washington City Dear Sir I take the liberty of addressing a few lines to you a few days I deem a very important subject all for you may not think so but this is the subject I wish that Baker Cooley of this County has procured a Pension for Zachary Watkins at the rate of Seventy Watkins was a pensioner as of Luck is the fact it is thought for the reason was the wife of Mr Hendrick who was living with him Lawful years and had several children which they lived together about ten left him some 12 or 15 years before he came and took up with a man by the name of Lee for any thing we see they living together where she left Hendrick he married a native woman and they lived together till a few years before his death in the year 1835 the Zachary never had his wife and did not live with him for 12 or 15 years before his death & these are the facts which can be proved by substantial men for they have for 25 years lived close around Prestonsburg Do you care that the case as you think proper for think him it is a pity Sincerely Yours J. Patrick

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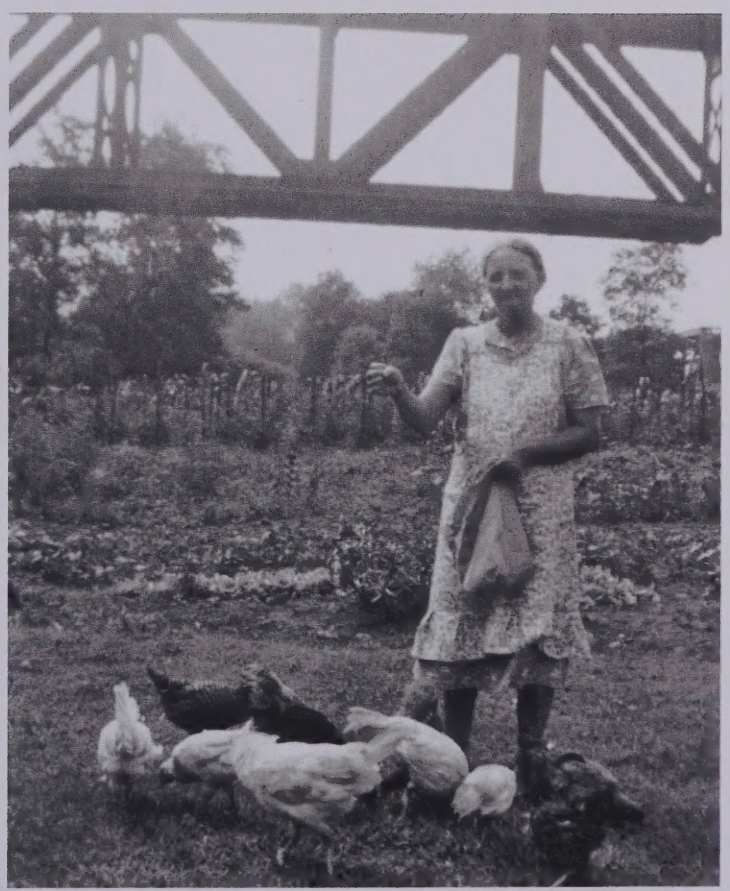

PARKVIEW
PHYSICIANS GROUP

Cardiology
11108 Parkview Circle
Fort Wayne, IN 46845-1730
260-266-5700

Lexie scan
Sept. 16

Rita B Brown
10776 St Rt 15
Montpelier OH 43543

Building
10 Falling
Freeway

RE: SCHEDULING YOUR APPOINTMENT

Dear Rita,

We have been unable to reach you by telephone. Please call our office at 260-266-5680 or 1-800-637-6505 to schedule your appointment.

Thank you,

Parkview Physicians Group Cardiology
Scheduling Department
DOB: 6/30/1947
*Dictated but not read.
TMD

Dear Sean
Sept. 11

Best wishes
to Robins
Jeff Corbett

Detail Source

Regiment:	22nd Infantry Battalion Virginia
Date of Organization:	15 May 1862
Muster Date:	9 Apr 1865
Regiment State:	Virginia
Regiment Type:	Infantry
Regiment Number:	22nd
Battles:	Fought on 6 Apr 1865 at Amelia Court House, VA.
Find Soldiers in this Regiment:	U.S. Civil War Soldier Records a

William Henry COPLEY (Copy) 1790 - 17 Aug 1855

Detail Source

Regiment:	22nd Infantry Battalion Virginia
Date of Organization:	15 May 1862
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William H Copley in the

U.S., Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1865

Compare details

Record details

Name	William H Copley
Enlistment Rank	Private
Muster Place	Virginia
Muster Company	D
Muster Regiment	22nd Battn Infantry
Muster Regiment Type	Infantry
Muster Information	Enlisted
Side of War	Confederacy
Title	Index to Compiled Confederate Military Service Records

View record page for additional details, certificate purchase, suggested records, or to report an issue.

Historical Data Systems, comp. *U.S., Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1865* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2009.

Would you like to save this information to your tree?

William H Copley in the

U.S., Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1865

Compare details

Record details

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Sarah Jane BROWN (Hamilton)

Great-grandmother

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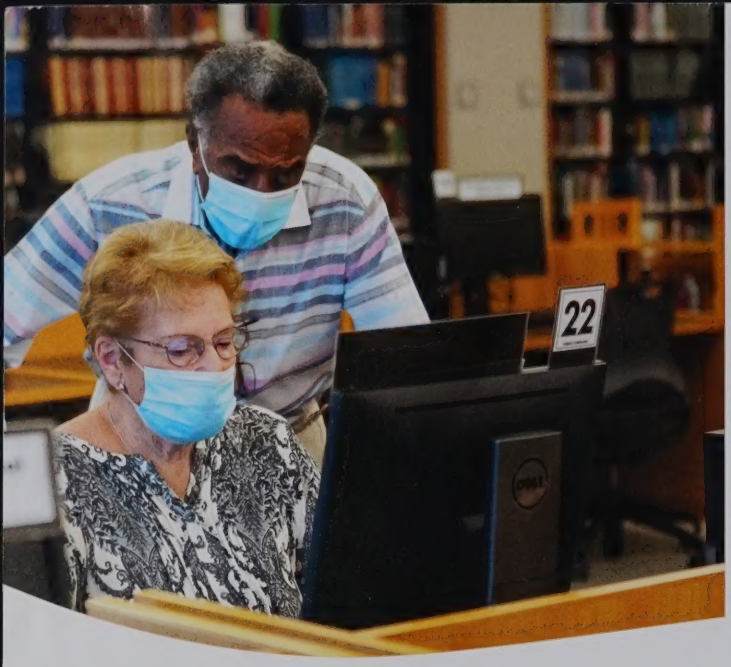

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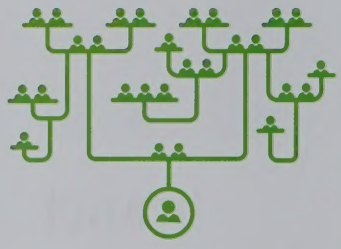

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>
> JANICE M.

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GenealogyCenter.org

VisitFortWayne INDIANA

927 S Harrison St, Fort Wayne, IN 46802
(260) 424-3700
VisitFortWayne.com/Genealogy

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SOURCES: ISTOCK; APPLE STOCK

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out on a **limb**

PHOTO CREDIT: BOTOS PHOTOS

We cover a lot of genealogy websites and news here at *Family Tree*, so I'm often studying the latest family history developments and networking with researchers. Every now and then, someone asks for my impression of the genealogy community and the many historians who comprise it.

My first response is simple: Genealogists *love to share*. Whether it's a new database, a photo or record, an article, or a tech tool, researchers' first instinct is often to send their new find to friends and family. And there's no shortage of ways to do so—Facebook posts, tweets, blogs, YouTube videos, forums, and even "old-fashioned" emails.

In that spirit of collaboration, this issue covers some of the ways you can share research with others. On page 52, Contributing Editor Rick Crume highlights some of the best places to share family photos and videos online, from megagiants like FamilySearch <www.familysearch.org> to more techy hubs like Photobucket <www.photobucket.com>. And Rachel Christian, who manages our social media accounts, shares her tips for archiving genealogy tidbits you find on the likes of Facebook and Twitter (page 42).

We're also sharing some of our own finds—our annual list of the 101 Best Genealogy Websites (page 12). This year's article also includes our roundup of the 75 Best State Websites (page 24), a great resource for those looking for ancestors in the United States.

Family history isn't a competition. It's how we connect with others—our ancestors, as well as each other. And as they say, "sharing is caring." ●

Andrew P. Koch

TREE TALK

We asked about your favorite online record collection. Here's how you responded.

Georgia Historic Newspapers! <gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu> They have so many newspapers from all over the state of Georgia! I've found so many articles related to my family!

Pamela Aban (@pamelaaban) via Twitter

Ancestry's yearbooks! <www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1265> I love seeing my parents' and grandparents' old photos.

@rememberingtheozarks via Instagram

NORWAY'S DIGITAL ARCHIVE <www.digitalarkivet.no/en>—free access to hundreds of years of clear scanned original documents. Church, census, probate and emigration records can provide complete documentation for generations. Historic[al] photos as well. Option for English for searches.

Renae Dorrity via Facebook

My favourite record collection is not online. Most records are not online. The court records for the Manor of Moulton Harrington are held in an archive, @LincsArchives

Sue Adams (@sue_familyfolk) via Twitter

Check out our staff's website recommendations in this year's list of the 101 Best Genealogy Websites (page 12).

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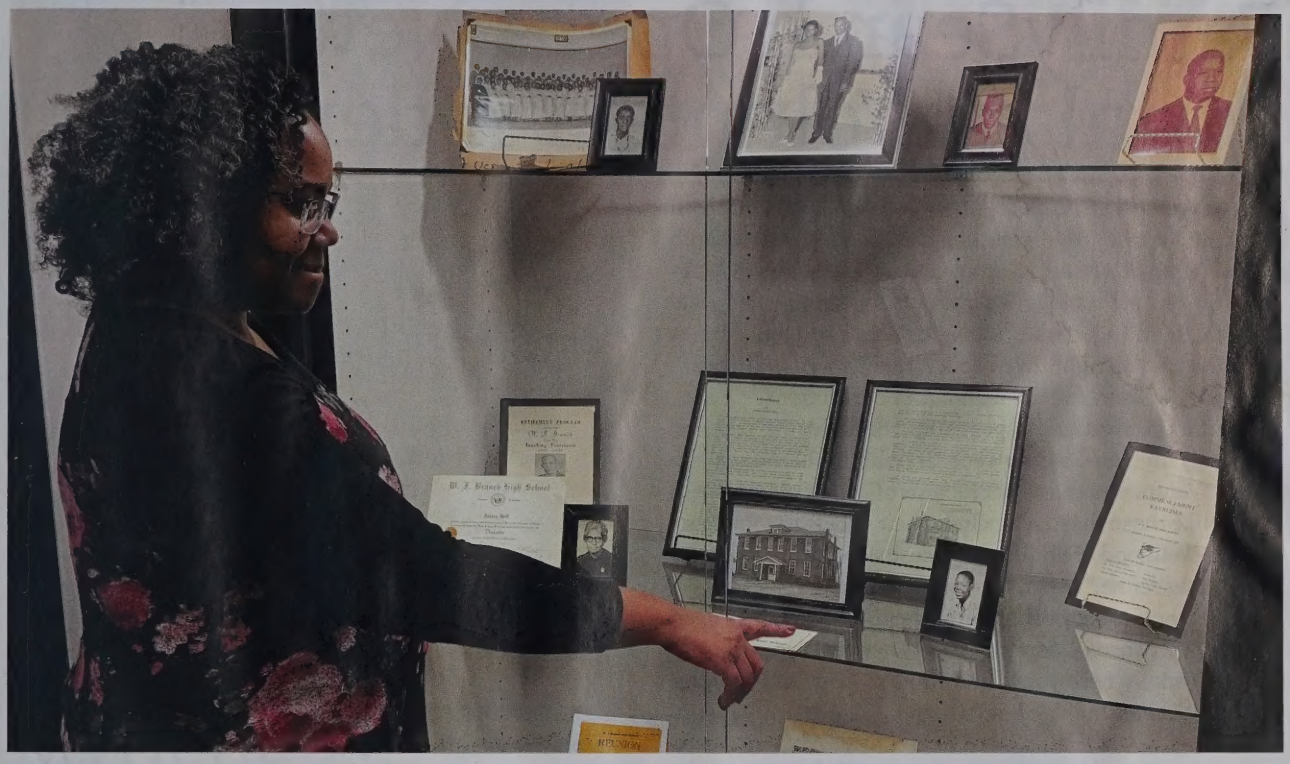


Trisha Mays-Cummings in front of a W.F. Branch High School history display that she curated

COURTESY TRISHA MAYS-CUMMINGS

A woman turns her grandmother's school archive into a celebration of local Black history.

When Trisha Mays-Cummings of Newport, Ark., cleaned out her late grandmother's home, she discovered photos, yearbooks, graduation programs, report cards and other memorabilia from William F. Branch High School, a nearby school that her relatives attended. The records span nearly 40 years, from her grandmother's 1931 graduation to her mother's graduation in 1970, when the school closed.

For Trisha, it was like going down memory lane. Although she didn't go to W.F. Branch High herself, the school's documents included familiar faces: Trisha's parents, siblings, friends, and grandmother.

W.F. Branch High School served African American students during a time when Arkansas' school districts were segregated by race. And when Newport School District fully integrated, the school closed.

Trisha's grandmother, who worked as a teacher and counselor at W.F. Branch for 50 years, helped clean out the school. "I never knew the trailblazing work my grandmother did in education," Trisha says. "The integrated school wasn't interested in the history, memorabilia or traditions of W.F. Branch, so my grandmother kept them."

Trisha wanted to share her grandmother's collection with local alumni, retired teachers and younger generations who didn't know the school's importance. Much to her delight, both the local historical society and Arkansas State University—Newport campus library responded to her offer to curate a W.F. Branch display.

"This display puts our local Black history front and center," she says. To Trisha, the display also honors the people who taught generations of African American children, who went on to succeed despite Jim Crow South rules because of their foundation at W.F. Branch.

"I always say that, for me, family history is about finding history within your own family," Trisha says. "For me and my family, that history includes W.F. Branch High School."

Sunny Jane Morton

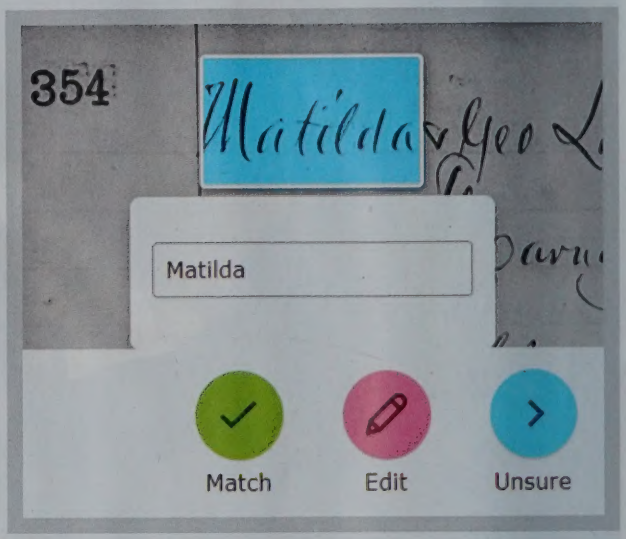
WHAT'S NEW

FamilySearch Opens New Portal for Volunteer Indexing

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE NOW HELPS with record indexing at the free genealogy website FamilySearch <www.familysearch.org>. State-of-the-art handwriting-recognition technology extracts data from historical records to auto-generate indexes. The tool flags entries that don't seem right, then sends them to virtual volunteers who will review them and offer corrections.

The tool dramatically speeds up the indexing process, especially in non-English records where volunteers are fewer. "Volunteers can select records of personal interest to them—like those that may include their ancestors—increasing the likelihood of finding an ancestor in the records they are helping refine," says a FamilySearch press release.

One early focus for volunteers who use the tool has been the 1950 US census. Learn more at <www.familysearch.org/getinvolved>, where you'll find links to both the browser tool and the Get Involved mobile app.



Index review screen on FamilySearch

Photos being scanned via the Ancestry mobile app

NEW PHOTO AND STORYTELLING TOOLS AT ANCESTRY.COM

Thanks to a partnership with Photomyne <www.photomyne.com>, Ancestry.com <www.ancestry.com> released a new tool on its mobile app that can quickly and easily scan multiple images. Users can also then rotate and enhance scanned images as needed.

From the app, tap Trees, then the photo icon and a plus sign to scan new photos. The image-enhancement features can be used on newly uploaded images as well as those they've already added to the site.

The tool also supports Ancestry.com's new story platform, which allows users to curate and share ancestral stories within the app that incorporate photos, life events, records and personal memories.

Sunny Jane Morton is a contributing editor for Family Tree Magazine, content manager at Your DNA Guide and industry expert on the giant genealogy websites.

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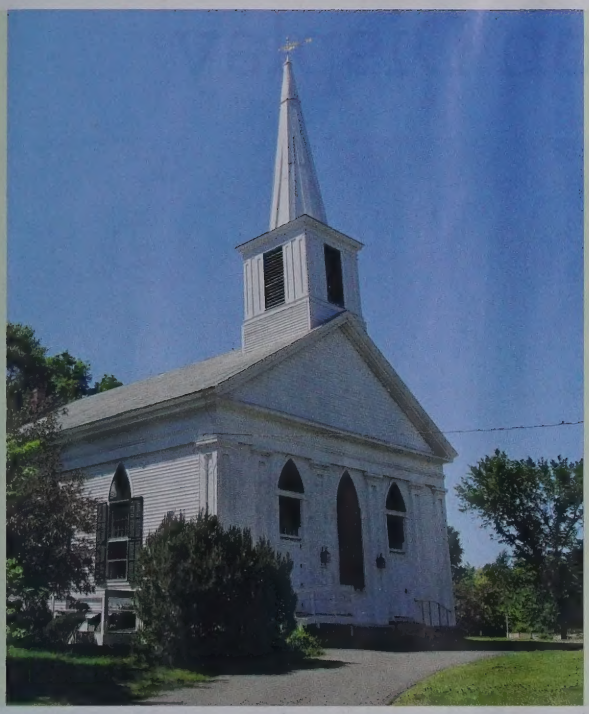


Leverett Congregational Church in Massachusetts

CONGREGATIONAL ARCHIVES ONLINE

The Congregational Library & Archives published an online digital collection <www.congregationallibrary.org/nehh/main> that has tens of thousands of historical record images from churches around New England. The Congregational Church was an outgrowth of early Puritan communities, and most records in the collection date between 1634 and 1850.

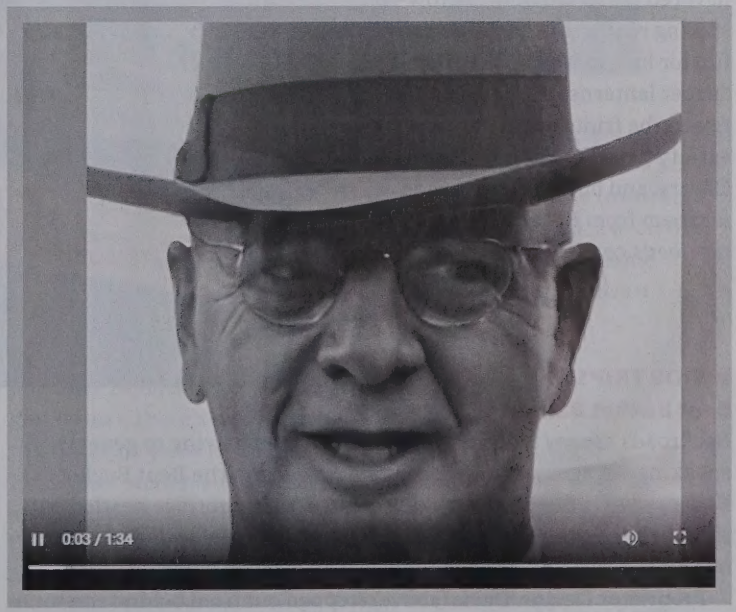
"The records of these congregations document births, deaths, and marriages, but also open a window onto the lives of ordinary people deliberating on matters both sacred and secular," states a press release. "For much of the Colonial period, [these records] show ordinary people making decisions about property, taxation, and their representation in the larger affairs."

MyHeritage Launches LiveStory

USERS OF SUBSCRIPTION GENEALOGY COMPANY MyHeritage <www.myheritage.com> can now create animated versions of ancestors' photos, in which the subjects "narrate" their own stories. Movements are generated and mapped to ancestral photos using artificial intelligence, an extension of MyHeritage's well-known Deep Nostalgia tool.

Users can write and edit the text of these videos, or have the site generate a script from details and photos in their MyHeritage tree. They can select from more than 140 voices in 31 languages, then preview the result.

The company describes the result as "a technological simulation of how the person in your photo would have moved and looked if they were captured on video and spoke the words that you provided."



LiveStory video created using MyHeritage

Complete subscribers at MyHeritage have unlimited access to LiveStory; others have limits on how many they can create. Access LiveStory in the Photos section of the app or website, or get started at <www.myheritage.com/livestory>.

Heirlooms on Display

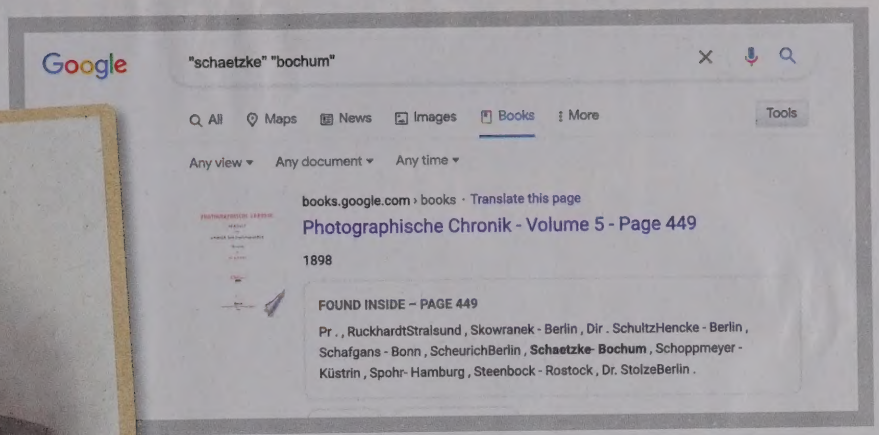
▲ HEIRLOOM DIY:
Old-Fashioned Ground Cherries

One of my favorite picks for the garden has roots in my family history. Ground cherries (also called husk tomatoes) were my ancestors' favorite substitute for fruit pie filling and preserves. These pineapple-berry flavored fruits are easy to grow—no staking required!—and especially fun for kids to work with, since their "paper lanterns" need peeled to reveal the fruit inside. I grow a Polish variety called Aunt Molly's Ground Cherry, and buy heirloom seeds for them from Baker Creek <www.rareseeds.com>.

▶ SIDE TRIPS:
Bent Bucket Bakery

Backroads are my favorite way to travel when driving to genealogy speaking engagements. Recently the road led to the Bent Bucket Bakery <www.bentbucketbakery.com>, a rustic cottage nestled outside the small town of Lipan, Texas (right). On one wall were numerous photos, recipes, kitchen utensils and even an apron.

Proprietor Deiann Davis (above) stepped out from behind the counter to answer my questions about the heirlooms. They belonged to Deiann's grandmother and great-grandmother ("They were great women," she says), and Deiann found an Etsy <www.etsy.com> shop that turned their old recipes into artwork. Her father used mesquite wood from the family ranch to frame photos of family gatherings where (according to Deiann) they "just pulled up a wagon and set the food out ... all the aunts and uncles and cousins here at the home place."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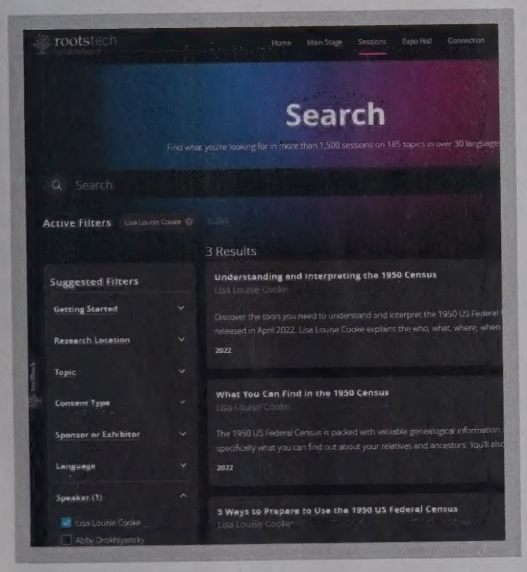
▲ TOP TOOLS: Using Google to Identify Photos

Did your ancestors neglect to write names, places and dates on their photographs? If the images happen to be old cabinet cards, you may be able to use the photographer imprint to learn more about them. For some of my family's photos from Germany, I used Google Translate <translate.google.com> to convert the text to English, and Google Earth <earth.google.com> to find the locations. Finally, I searched Google Books <books.google.com> with the photographer's information to unearth details such as when the photographer was in business (which provide a date range for the photo).



▲ SITES TO SEE: RootsTech Session Archive

Got a few free minutes? Check out the RootsTech Session Archive <www.familysearch.org/rootstech/search>. There you'll find (as of the time of this writing) more than 1,500 free videos from the 2021 and 2022 RootsTech virtual conferences. With over 185 topics in 30-plus languages, you're bound to find something to meet your genealogy needs. In the column on the left, search by topic, content type, research location, speaker and more.

▲ TECH TOOLS: MyHeritage Photo Storyteller

If you've enjoyed enhancing, colorizing and animating your family photos at MyHeritage <www.myheritage.com>, there's now even more that you can do. With MyHeritage Photo Storyteller, you can record and attach audio stories behind those photos to the image files. In the free MyHeritage mobile app, tap the Photos icon on the main screen, then a photo, then the microphone icon to record an audio message. I used the tool to tell the story of this photo—me getting my first tape recorder at Christmas as a kid. (As a podcaster, I love how the tool turns my photos into mini "podcasts"!)

▲ Podcast

Hear more great genealogy finds from Lisa and other experts in our free monthly podcast <www.familytreemagazine.com/genealogy-podcast>.

Lisa Louise Cooke is the founder of the Genealogy Gems website and podcast <www.lisalouisecooke.com>, and host of the Family Tree Podcast <www.familytreemagazine.com/genealogy-podcast>.

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branching out

"THE INTERNET IS THE PRINTING PRESS of the technology era." ●

Jim Barksdale, then CEO of Netscape, reflected on the game-changing nature of the internet way back in 1996, in a Q&A with *Time* magazine. Much like the printing press made the written word more accessible, the internet has allowed for the mass digitization of historical records, photos and books—attracting new waves of family historians. Our latest list of the 101 Best Genealogy Websites begins on page 12.

TANIA ZBRODKO/ADOBE STOCK

WALK OF FAME

These blockbuster **101 Best Genealogy Websites** will leave you on the edge of your seat.

by DAVID A. FRYXELL

Few cultural institutions got hit harder by the pandemic than the cinema. But recent box office numbers suggest that Hollywood is making a comeback. *Spider-Man: No Way Home* late last year quickly became the third highest-grossing film in the United States, and the anticipation behind this summer's blockbusters (from *Top Gun: Maverick* to *Jurassic World: Dominion*) underscores how ready many are to escape to the theater.

The movies can inspire a craving for popcorn. But can they also inspire your genealogy research? Our annual list of the 101 Best Genealogy Websites is here to answer with an emphatic yes! Whether your family-history finds are shocking ("Luke, I am your father") or merely satisfying ("Auntie Em, there's no place like home"), these websites will help you click your way to stardom.

As usual, the honor-worthy sites here are mostly free unless noted otherwise with a dollar sign ($). Those premium sites require a subscription or other payment to really get the most value from their content. Also as usual, we've marked sites that were not in last year's list with an asterisk (*).

To make room for more of those new or returning genealogy sites, we've left a bunch of familiar social-media destinations on the cutting-room floor. We've also once again skipped sites annually singled out in our listing of 75 best state sites—but, in a first for us, they have their own section in this same issue, on pages 24 and 25.

Enough housekeeping! Fire up the popcorn popper and bring out the Jujubes or Sno-Caps. Silence your cellphones and settle into your seats. Your family tree is ready for its close-up.

"BIG" GENEALOGY WEBSITES

Ancestry.com $

<www.ancestry.com>

Everything's bigger at Ancestry.com, now totaling 30 billion records and 10,000 terabytes of data, including 200 million names newly culled from sister site Newspapers.com's marriage announcements and records from recently acquired Geneanet. Full global access to records runs $300 per year, and you can add the records of fellow honorees Newspapers.com and Fold3 with the All Access membership ($400/year). The AncestryDNA test ($99, but often on sale) has refined its ethnicity estimates, with more than 1,500 genetic communities represented.

FamilySearch

<www.familysearch.org>

Now accessible in 30 languages, this always-free site recently added 28 million records from 20th-century US military muster rolls. Drawing on the vast resources of the Family History Library, FamilySearch ranges from macro resources such as censuses to micro-collections such as county children's home records.

Findmypast $

<www.findmypast.com>

Recent interface improvements, including image thumbnails and viewing controls, make it even easier to access this subscription site ($179/year for Ultimate access; $99 for LivingDNA testing). Coverage is strongest for the British Isles—boosted by the addition of 10 million Scottish parish vital records—though US and Australian records have recently been augmented. For extra pay-per-view fees, the 1921 census of England and Wales is available here.

HeritageQuest Online

<www.heritagequestonline.com>

You can't subscribe to this site, but your local library can. If it's thereby free to you, you can enjoy collections from partner Ancestry.com along with the original half-dozen databases from HeritageQuest.

Editor's note: Some of the websites listed in this article have advertising or affiliate relationships with *Family Tree Magazine*. However, *Family Tree* neither offers nor accepts payment in exchange for placement on the list of the 101 Best Genealogy Websites; honorees are selected solely on merit by David A. Fryxell and the editorial staff of *Family Tree Magazine*.

JULIE BARNETT

MyHeritage $

<www.myheritage.com>

MyHeritage's new photo tools and ancestor-animation feature (Deep Nostalgia) may have garnered most of the press in the past year, but you shouldn't overlook the site for its original tree-building prowess (5 billion entries). A rapid expansion of its database, now topping 12 billion records, powers email alerts when records match your trees. New additions include millions of French records from the recent acquisition of Filae. Full record access with unlimited trees costs $299 per year; another $79 buys DNA testing, plugging into 2,000-plus genetic groups.

US GENEALOGY WEBSITES

AccessGenealogy

<www.accessgenealogy.com>

Launched in 1999 as an online finding aid, this site has grown to a reported quarter-million links, plus its own collections (under "Databases"). Particularly strong on Native American records, AccessGenealogy claims to have "the largest collection of free genealogy for your United States research," with a sidebar at right that breaks out collections by state. Our November/December 2021 issue included a tutorial of the site, which you can watch a version of here <www.familytreemagazine.com/websites/access-genealogy-quick-tour>.

ACPL Genealogy Center

<acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy>

The nation's second-largest genealogy library, the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Ind., offers free collections of Native American, African American and military records; family Bibles; a surname file; and state resources from Indiana and beyond.

American Ancestors $

<www.americanancestors.org>

A must for anyone with New England ancestors, this subscription site ($99.95 per year) from the New England Historic Genealogical Society also ranges beyond its Yankee origins, with more than 1.4 billion names in 475-plus collections. The online gallery Ancestor Strong <ancestorstrong.americanancestors.org>, new in 2021, offers free-to-explore features and user-submitted stories of plucky kin.

Read the online version of this list (complete with clickable links) at <www.familytreemagazine.com/best-genealogy-websites>.

BYU—Idaho Western States Marriage Index

<abish.byui.edu/specialcollections/western-states/search.cfm>

Find your ancestors' nuptials in more than 913,000 marriage records for 12 Western states. Arizona, Idaho and Nevada are best represented.

Genealogical.com $

<www.genealogical.com>

Tap nearly 70 years of genealogical expertise from the Genealogical Publishing Company, which has published more than 2,000 books ranging transcriptions of old records not available elsewhere to tomes that are standards in the field. An ePub subscription ($99.95 per year) offers digital access to more than 740 titles—equivalent in value to $35,000 of print editions.

Genealogy Trails

<www.genealogytrails.com>

Launched back in 2000 to transcribe Illinois records, this volunteer site now hosts data for every state plus nationwide finds such as *Fanning's Illustrated Gazetteer* from 1850, Trail of Tears data, military headstones, and even "chuckwagon" recipes that make use of pioneer-era ingredients.

Library of Congress

<www.loc.gov>

Check the catalog for books about your ancestors or their hometowns; explore archived music and folk traditions; download historical photos; and map the past with Sanborn fire insurance maps. Other digital collections range from music sheets published by the A.P. Schmidt Company (1869–1958) archives to contemporary "zines."

National Archives and Records Administration

<www.archives.gov>

Volunteer citizen archivists have made catalog pages and record collections from "the nation's

Children in front of a Texas movie theater, 1939

attic" easier to find—including the recently released 1950 census <1950census.archives.gov>. Here, order veterans' service records, check out old maps and photos, research immigrant arrivals, search WWII enlistments and much more. Find the branch nearest to you at <www.archives.gov/locations>, or roll up your sleeves and help as a volunteer <www.archives.gov/citizen-archivist>.

New York Public Library Digital Collections

<digitalcollections.nypl.org>

This site is a "living database" with new materials added every day, featuring more than 913,000 items from the library's collections: maps, photographs, manuscripts, videos and more.

Reclaim the Records

<www.reclaimtherecords.org>

When government agencies try to limit access to vital and other records, this advocacy group steps in with freedom-of-information laws and open-data requests. You can find links to the group's successes (representing some 30 million records, including a swath of New Jersey birth indexes) here.

USGenWeb

<www.usgenweb.org>

This volunteer site encompasses thousands of state and county sites, tombstone and obituaries project, and pension collections. (No wonder its home page features a "trophy wall" of past 101 Best Websites honors!)

CEMETERY WEBSITES

BillionGraves

<www.billiongraves.com>

It's free to search—or add to—this collection of cemetery data and photos, linked to GPS coordinates. Or upgrade for $60 per year to search by family plots and nearby graves, plus get priority support.

Find a Grave

<www.findagrave.com>

With more than 200 million volunteer-submitted transcriptions (most with photos), this is the place to start seeking your dearly departed. Search options include nicknames, and maiden names, and you can place virtual "flowers."

Interment.net

<www.interment.net>

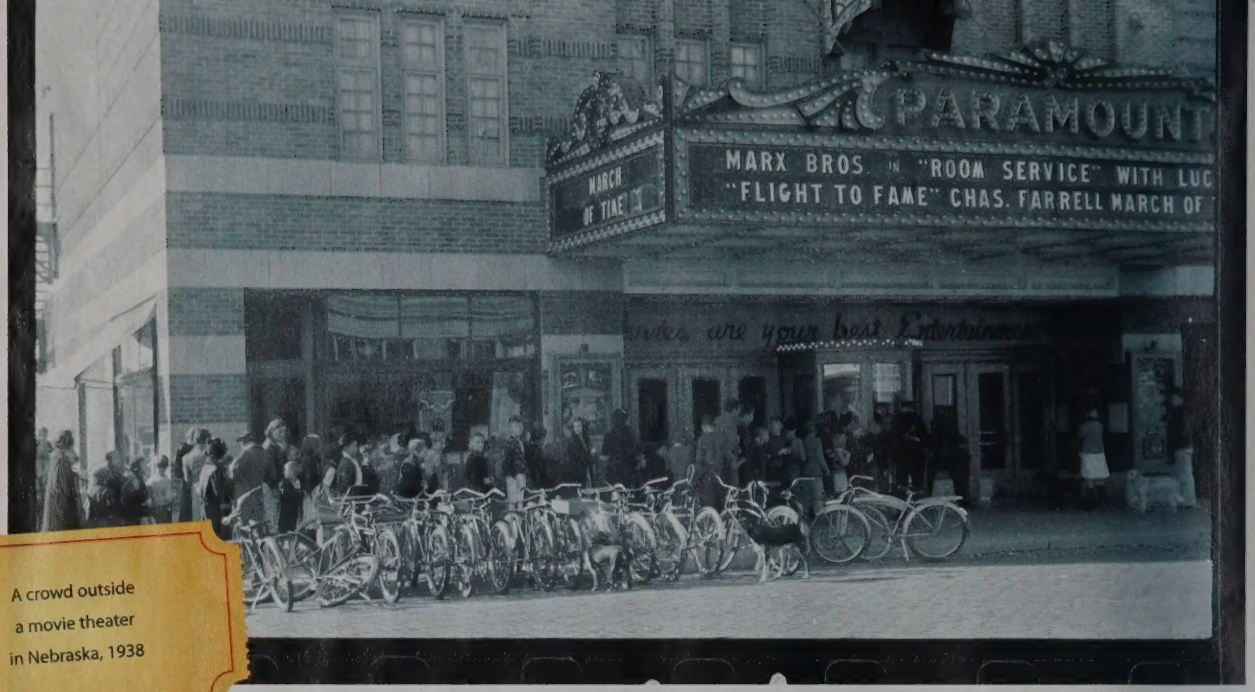
Don't overlook this collection of more than 25 million cemetery records, transcripts and burial registers, which draws on some unusual sources—fraternal groups, historical societies and governments—as well as volunteer contributions.

Names in Stone *

<www.namesinstone.com>

Search by deceased ancestor or cemetery to get not only tombstone names but also the grave location; cemetery name, map and address; GPS coordinates; and even driving directions. Members of the soon-to-be-launched paid plan will get enhanced features, but basic searching is free.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



A crowd outside a movie theater in Nebraska, 1938

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Nationwide Gravesite Locator

<gravelocator.cem.va.gov>

If your military ancestors were buried in VA (Department of Veterans Affairs) National Cemeteries, state veterans' cemeteries, or other US locations (such as those with government grave markers), you can find them here.

HISTORICAL NEWSPAPER WEBSITES

British Newspaper Archive $

<www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk>

Get the news about your British ancestors in this collection of nearly 50 million pages from the 1700s onward. Explore for a month for about $17, or subscribe for a year at just $9 per month. A partnership with Findmypast aims to add 14 million more pages by 2023, with 1 million pages per year free to access.

Chronicling America

<chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>

Thanks to the Library of Congress, you can access more than 19 million free digitized newspaper pages from across the nation, dating from 1777 to 1963.

GenealogyBank $

<www.genealogybank.com>

Can't find your family in other newspaper collections? Try this subscription site (regular rate: $99.90 per year), which boasts that 95 percent of its titles aren't available elsewhere. In addition to 13,000-plus titles and 260 million obituaries, subscribers get access to censuses, historical books and government publications.

NewspaperArchive * $

<www.newspaperarchive.com>

Launched in 1999, this pioneer in online commercial newspaper archives has 16,000 titles and over 100 million obituaries. For $139.90 per year or $19.95 per month, you can search its holding including titles from every US state and 28 countries.

Newspapers.com $

<www.newspapers.com>

Another Ancestry.com property, this site has a Basic subscription ($44.95 for six months) that includes 210 million pages from 22,000 newspapers dating back to the 1700s. The Publishers Extra subscription ($74.90 for six months) adds 530 million pages—many of them from more-recent newspapers—licensed from publishers.

Newspaper Navigator *

<news-navigator.labs.loc.gov/search>

Another free newspaper search site from the Library of Congress, this "LC Labs" project serves up 1.5 million historical newspaper

tip

Many subscription websites offer free trials, which allow you to try a service without having to purchase a plan. (Think of these free trials as movie trailers!)

photos from 1900 through 1963. Search by keyword, and the AI "navigators" will return newspaper photos it deems related.

MILITARY RECORDS WEBSITES

American Battle Monuments Commission
<www.abmc.gov>
More than 200,000 Americans who died in World War I or II are buried or otherwise memorialized at the commission's overseas military cemeteries. Search them all here.

Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System
<www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm>
This essential jumping-off point for finding ancestors who fought on either side in the Civil War covers 6.3 million soldiers from 44 states and territories. You'll also find more than 4,000 unit histories, plus records of 18,000 African American Union sailors.

Daughters of the American Revolution
<www.dar.org>
Though the organization doesn't offer military records per se, the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) opens its membership to descendants of those who fought for or otherwise supported the United States in the Revolutionary War. DAR offers more than 80,000 Bible records, its library catalog, back-issues of *American Spirit* magazine, and entries in the DAR Genealogical Research System (used to research connections to qualifying ancestors).

Fold3 $
<www.fold3.com>
Another Ancestry.com subscription-based property, Fold3 ($79.95 per year) focuses mostly on military records, including Revolutionary War and War of 1812 pensions, Civil War records, and WWI and WWII draft registrations.

Mexican War Soldiers & Sailors Database
<www.nps.gov/paal/learn/historyculture/search-usmexwar.htm>
Search more than 89,000 records from both sides of the overlooked Mexican-American War in this database from the National Park Service's Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site.

Stories Behind the Stars *
<www.storiesbehindthestars.org>
This nonprofit initiative aims to compile and share the stories of the more than 400,000 US military who lost their lives in World War II.

HISTORICAL MAP WEBSITES

Arcanum Maps *
<maps.arcanum.com/en>
This evolution of the Mapire site still specializes in historical maps of Europe, including country, city and land (cadastral) maps. You can even search for specific places on the old maps—no scrolling or squinting required.

Atlas of Historical County Boundaries
<www.newberry.org/atlas-historical-county-boundaries>
Chicago's Newberry Library offers the ultimate online guide to those frustrating county boundary changes that put your ancestors' records in the "wrong" places. In maps and text, you'll find complete data about the creation and subsequent changes in the size, shape and location of every US county.

Atlas of the Historical Geography of the United States
<dsl.richmond.edu/historicalatlas>
This site takes a high-tech approach to Charles O. Paullin and John K. Wright's classic 1932 atlas. Find nearly 700 colorful maps, many of which are digitally enhanced to show changes over time or easily access data.

Bureau of Land Management: General Land Office Records
<www.glorecords.blm.gov>
Uncle Sam serves up images of more than 5 million federal land title records issued between 1788 and the present, plus survey plats and field notes, land status records, and control document index records.

David Rumsey Map Collection
<www.davidrumsey.com>
With 18 interactive globes of Earth (plus a few of Mars and other celestial bodies) and 114,000 images browsable using its Luna viewer, this site that's sprung from a Stanford University

collection is eye-popping. The online collection includes rare 16th- through 21st-century maps from around the world. See page 64 for a tutorial.

Gazetteer of British Place Names

<gazetteer.org.uk>

This exhaustive place-name index to Great Britain contains over 280,000 entries. It lists the historical county and the main administrative areas in which each place lies, and even covers changing boundaries and matches postal codes to places.

Historic Map Works

<www.historicmapworks.com>

With more than 1.6 million searchable historic maps and images, this site lets you match historical maps with modern Google ones and search in old property maps and directories. Subscribers can use a premium viewing tool, but there's plenty here for free.

Meyers Gazetteer

<www.meyersgaz.org>

Track down kin who lived in the German Empire (1871 to 1918) with this comprehensive place-name database. Searching is a snap, with unlimited asterisk wildcards and no worries about diacritical marks.

US Geological Survey

<www.usgs.gov>

Where the heck is your ancestors' old stomping grounds of "West Thumb"? The USGS' Geographic Names Information System <edits.nationalmap.gov/apps/gaz-domestic/public/search/names> knows. You can also put places on the map with satellite, topographic and geologic maps.

WorldMap

<worldmap.maps.arcgis.com/home>

This Harvard collaborative mapping project has expanded beyond its original application, AfricaMap, which traced the slave trade. Many include overlays such as ethnographic surveys, Wikipedia entries, historical maps and heritage sites.

FAMILY TREE AND SHARING WEBSITES

AncientFaces *

<www.ancientfaces.com>

Launched in 2000, this family photo-sharing site has expanded to encompass collaborative biographies, which serve as sort of a Wikipedia entry for the not-necessarily-famous.

Geni

<www.geni.com>

Shared trees at this free site include more than 230 million profiles. Seamlessly collaborate on a single shared tree with as many family members as you like.

TribalPages

<www.tribalpages.com>

Pick your own privacy level here; if you choose, only invited family members can view or update your tree. Create charts, publish and share family stories, and even send customized newsletters to your cousins. Basic trees are free; posting more than 1,000 photos and certain other features require a paid subscription.

WeRelate

<www.werelate.org>

This collaborative tree "wiki," sponsored by the Foundation for On-Line Genealogy, has pages for some 3 million people. You can search it for genealogy clues whether or not you contribute.

WikiTree

<www.wikitree.com>

This ambitious effort to build a "single family tree" for the world now includes some 30 million profiles—more than 9 million with DNA test connections—edited by nearly 900,000 members from around the world.

IMMIGRATION WEBSITES

Castle Garden

<www.castlegarden.org>

Before there was Ellis Island, America's first immigration center welcomed 8 million passengers to the port of New York from 1855 to 1890. Check this database (which includes records from as early as 1820) to see if your ancestors were among them.

A Regal movie theater in South Side Chicago, 1941

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Cook County Clerk of the Circuit Court *

<services.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org/NR/faq.aspx>

Even if your Midwestern family didn't live in Cook County (home of the city of Chicago), they may have been naturalized there. Find out in this searchable database of more than 500,000 naturalization documents covering 1871 to 1929—primarily declarations of intention, which may be the only public record of an individual immigrant.

Immigration to the United States, 1789–1930 *

<ocp.hul.harvard.edu/immigration>

This expansive Harvard site documents the nation's immigration history—especially the 19th-century waves of immigrants—with more than 400,000 pages from 2,200 books, pamphlets and serials; 9,600 pages from manuscript and archival collections; and more than 7,800 photographs.

The Statue of Liberty—Ellis Island Foundation

<www.statueofliberty.org/ellis-island>

Skip the glossy home page and zip right to this main search form <heritage.statueofliberty.org/passenger>, where you can look for ancestors among 65 million records of arrivals through the Port of New York.

GENEALOGY NEWS WEBSITES AND BLOGS

Cyndi's List

<www.cyndislist.com>

Cyndi Ingle has been scoping out and categorizing genealogy websites almost as long as there's been a web—more than 25 years. At last count, she was up to more than 318,000 links in 229 categories.

Genealogy Gems

<www.lisalouisecooke.com>

Family Tree Magazine contributor Lisa Louise Cooke will help break down your brick walls with her podcasts, how-to guides, articles and YouTube channel <www.youtube.com/user/GenealogyGems>.

Genealogy Guys

<www.genealogyguys.com>

Lend an ear to any of about 400 podcast episodes, or check out the blog posts, courses and webinars by George G. Morgan and Drew Smith.

The Legal Genealogist

<www.legalgenealogist.com>

Find answers to your questions about copyright and old photos, DNA, record access, cemeteries and more at this site from Judy G. Russell, a "genealogist with a law degree."

RootsTech

<www.familysearch.org/rootstech>

Attend more than 1,500 sessions across 20-plus categories from this premier genealogy conference—all virtually. The latest additions include presentations from the all-digital March 2022 conference.

Children outside a movie theater in Pittsburgh, 1941

GENEALOGY TECH TOOLS

DeadFred *

<www.deadfred.com>

This genealogy photo archive has helped more than 3,000 people find pictures of their ancestors. It's free to search the archive of nearly 150,000 records representing 22,000 surnames, plus "mystery" pics. Paying members ($19.95 per year) get various customization options and enhanced photo-posting.

Family Tree Searcher *

<www.familytreesearcher.com>

No need to search family trees at popular pedigree sites one at a time. Here you can check up to 10 sites, from Ancestry.com to WorldConnect <wc.rootsweb.com>, by entering your ancestor's info just once. A manual search option adds hints and suggestions for all the linked sites.

Guild of One-Name Studies *

<www.one-name.org>

Since 1979, the guild has promoted the study of surnames and their variants. You can search more than 2,300 studies covering 8,000-plus surnames and find related historical and educational resources. Some projects now include DNA components, while others detail surname geographic distribution and origins.

Internet Archive

<www.archive.org>

Digital discoveries await here, including old books, family and local histories, and media of all types. Or check the "Wayback Machine," which searches the history of over 673 billion pages on the internet.

One-Step Webpages

<www.stevemorse.org>

Steve Morse has figured out how to perform "one-step" deep dives into immigration records, census records (including 1950 enumeration districts) and vital records. He'll also guide you through the historical twists of calendars, foreign alphabets, old maps and more. Morse was a guest on the March 2022 episode of the Family Tree Podcast <www.familytreemagazine.com/podcasts/preparing-for-the-1950-census-release>.

RootsPoint * $

<www.rootspoint.com>

This rapidly expanding digitization site features nearly 10,000 state and family histories, plus census, military and immigration records. Join for just $9.99 per year, or try the site for a small fee.

RootsWeb

<home.rootsweb.ancestry.com>

Though it's gone through some changes since its acquisition by Ancestry.com, this volunteer site still has brick-wall-busting value in its hosted sites, transcribed records, how-to pages and WorldConnect family trees.

Trello *

<www.trello.com>

This free online collaboration tool organizes projects and ideas into easy-to-navigate boards, lists and cards. See our guide for using it in your research <www.familytreemagazine.com/organization/how-to-use-trello-for-genealogy>.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

WorldCat
<www.worldcat.org>
Can't find that something special at your library? If a book is available pretty much anywhere in the world, you can track it down among the more than 2 billion items cataloged here—with details on the nearest library that has it.

AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGY WEBSITES

Digital Library on American Slavery
<dlas.uncg.edu>
This online archive houses records related to the 15 slave states plus Washington, DC, as well as a number of Northern states. You'll find information about more than 100,000 individuals in slave deeds and notices, race and slavery petitions, and more.

Enslaved: Peoples of the Historical Slave Trade
<www.enslaved.org>
Learn about those who were enslaved, owned slaves, or participated in the slave trade through more than 950,000 searchable records.

Freedmen's Bureau Project
<www.discoverfreedmen.org>
In collaboration with FamilySearch, this site allows you to search nearly 1.8 million records of the formerly enslaved created by the Freedmen's Bureau, which was chartered to help the newly emancipated after the Civil War.

International African American Museum Center for Family History
<cfh.iaamuseum.org>
Part of a new museum, scheduled to open in 2022, this site searches marriage, obituary, Bible records and more, as well as offers articles, a blog, photos and videos.

UK, IRISH AND COMMONWEALTH GENEALOGY WEBSITES

CoraWeb
<www.coraweb.com.au>
Cora Num has been gathering Australian genealogy links since 1997. You'll also find categories for research in New Zealand, the United Kingdom, India and Sri Lanka.

FamilyRelatives.com $
<www.familyrelatives.com>
Though spanning the globe, this subscription site ($44.95 per year) has a decidedly British and Commonwealth bent. Besides census, military and parish records, you can search probate registers, trade directories and the like.

Library and Archives Canada
<www.bac-lac.gc.ca>
Canada's equivalents of the Library of Congress and National Archives are rolled into one here, with databases of censuses (1640–1926), vital records, immigration and passenger records (1865–1935), land transactions (1763–1930), military service (from 1777) and more.

The National Archives (UK)
<www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>
Download documents such as military records, wills, migration records and more.

National Archives of Ireland
<www.genealogy.nationalarchives.ie>
Search censuses (1901, 1911 and surviving fragments), marriage license bonds, crew lists, will registers, tithe applotment books from 1823 to 1837, Catholic convert rolls and more.

National Library of Ireland
<www.nli.ie>
The pot of gold here is the browse-only collection of Catholic parish at <registers.nli.ie>. You can also explore newspapers, manuscript catalogs, and collections of old photos.

Programme de Recherche en Démographie Historique * $
<www.prdh-igd.com>
Finding Quebec ancestors can be tricky, but this site makes all the province's Catholic baptisms and burials (as well as all 1621–1849 marriages) just a few clicks away. Fees for viewing results start at $19.99 CAD for 100 hits.

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland
<www.nidirect.gov.uk/proni>
A handy Name Search allows one-click searching of various early records, such as wills and censuses. Other tools include street directories, old maps, will calendars and freeholders' records.

RootsChat

<www.rootschat.com>

"Bursting with help. Just join in!" invites Britain's "busiest, largest" free family history forum, with more than 6.5 million posts from some 283,000 members.

RootsIreland $

<www.rootsireland.ie>

Though somewhat pricey ($264 per year), an investment in this subscription site could pay off with finds among 22 million records, including Griffith's Valuation and church records from 34 county genealogy centers.

ScotlandsPeople $

<www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk>

"Virtual Volumes" serve up digital copies at the National Records of Scotland not indexed by personal name. That's in addition to pay-per-view church records, censuses, valuation rolls and more; certain emigration records and a version of the 1881 census are free.

Trove

<trove.nla.gov.au>

Explore your Australian family history in this collaboration between the National Library of Australia and hundreds of partner organizations. Collections include digitized newspapers, maps, photos, books, diaries and letters.

SCANDINAVIAN GENEALOGY WEBSITES

ArkivDigital $

<www.arkivdigital.net>

All the Swedish records you might need can be found among the 90 million color scans at this subscription site (about $200 per year), along with a growing collection of searchable indexes.

Danish Demographic Database

<ddd.dda.dk/ddd_en.htm>

Find your Danes in censuses as far back as 1787, plus probate indexes and emigration records courtesy of the Copenhagen police.

Digitalarkivet

<www.digitalarkivet.no/en>

This comprehensive site from the National Archives of Norway is easy to search, packed with digitized records—and it's free.

EUROPEAN GENEALOGY WEBSITES

Archion $

<www.archion.de/en>

Now with more than 125,000 digitized church books, improved zooming and search capability, this subscription site (about $21 per month) is a must for German Protestant genealogy.

Filae *

<en.filae.com>

Recently acquired by MyHeritage, this French genealogy site launched in 1994 now hosts more than a billion civil registrations, censuses, early church records and documents from 60 regional partner associations. Premium access costs about $86 per year, with discounts available for MyHeritage users.

Genealogy Indexer

<www.genealogyindexer.org>

The bare-bones home page of this search engine for Central and East European records is your gateway to 1.9 million pages from 3,443 historical directories, plus memorials to Jewish communities (Yizkor books), military lists, community and personal histories and school resources.

Geneanet

<en.geneanet.org>

Another *magnifique* site for French research, Geneanet has recently been acquired by Ancestry.com. It's free to explore user-submitted trees, genealogical society indexes and resource guides. Premium members (about $50 per year) enjoy advanced search tools and access to publications in the site's Genealogy Library. See our complete guide at <www.familytreemagazine.com/websites/geneanet>.

Geneteka

<www.geneteka.genealodzy.pl>

Volunteers from the Polish Genealogical Society have made searchable church registers covering more than 43 million individuals, organized by voivodeship (province) or country.

Hungaricana

<www.hungaricana.hu/en>

After you've researched your Hungarian ancestors in the more than 4 million pages of

digitized publications, 100,000 old maps, and 300,000 census pages, check out the "Budapest Time Machine."

JewishGen

<www.jewishgen.org>

Explore databases of East European towns, Jewish surnames, Holocaust victims, and families in this site affiliated with the Museum of Jewish Heritage. (Other databases span the globe.)

Il Portale Antenati

<www.antenati.san.beniculturali.it>

Search by name or location in "The Ancestors Portal," which serves up more than 115 million images and 1.5 million registries from 80 Italian archives.

Routes to Roots Foundation

<www.rtrfoundation.org>

This genealogical guide to Jewish and civil records covers archives in Poland, Belarus, Ukraine, Lithuania and Moldova.

Wie Was Wie

<www.wiewaswie.nl/en>

Find your Dutch ancestors in civil registrations, population records, church books and more, covering more than 220 million people.

GENETIC GENEALOGY WEBSITES

23andMe $

<www.23andme.com>

In addition to its popular health reports, 23andMe also has more than 10 million DNA testers, making it worth a look for matching relatives. Its Family Tree feature automatically generates a visualization of genetic matches who have opted in. Ancestry-only testing costs $99.

DNAeXplained

<www.dna-explained.com>

Can't tell your STRs from your SNPs? Don't know an AutoSegment Triangulation Cluster Tool from an automatic transmission? Genetic genealogist Roberta Estes is here to help.

Family Tree DNA * $

<www.familytreedna.com>

This popular testing company boasts "the world's most comprehensive DNA matching database for autosomal DNA, Y-DNA and mtDNA." Tests range from $79 all the way up to $449.

The street in front of a theater near Lancaster, Ohio, 1938

GEDmatch

<www.gedmatch.com>

When not helping crack "cold cases" with genetic genealogy, GEDmatch solves everyday DNA mysteries for its 1.4 million members. Upload your data from any popular testing service and put the site's 45-plus DNA tools to work.

International Society of Genetic Genealogy Wiki

<www.isogg.org/wiki/Wiki_Welcome_Page>

Got DNA questions? Get answers from the 700-plus expert articles at this group's helpful site, along with links to genetic genealogy blogs, testing companies and DNA projects.

Your DNA Guide *

<www.yourdnaguide.com>

Whether you've already tested or are just exploring the science, this site serves up introductions to specific questions you can research with DNA, such as ethnicity and geographical origins; finding biological relatives; and identifying unknown ancestors. ●

Family Tree Magazine Founding Editor **David A. Fryxell** is the author of *The Family Tree Scandinavian Genealogy Guide* (Family Tree Books). *Spider-Man: No Way Home* was the first movie he'd seen in a theater in almost two years.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

75 Best State Websites

Each year, we also publish a list of the best websites for each US state and territory. All of the sites listed here are free unless otherwise noted, making them first-rate research destinations. See the full list (include short snippets about each honoree) at <www.familytreemagazine.com/best-state-genealogy-websites>.

Compiled by RICK CRUME

ALABAMA

Alabama Department of Archives & History
<digital.archives.alabama.gov>

AlabamaMosaic
<www.alabamamosaic.org>

ALASKA

Alaska State Archives: Genealogy <archives.alaska.gov/genealogy/genealogy.html>

AMERICAN SAMOA

American Samoa Genealogy
<americansamoagenealogy.atwebpages.com>

ARIZONA

Arizona Memory Project
<azmemory.azlibrary.gov>

ARKANSAS

Arkansas Digital Archives
<digitalheritage.arkansas.gov>

CALIFORNIA

California Digital Newspaper Collection
<cdnc.ucr.edu>

Calisphere
<www.calisphere.org>

Online Archive of California
<oac.cdlib.org>

COLORADO

Denver Public Library Digital Collections
<digital.denverlibrary.org>

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Digital Archive
<www.ctdigitalarchive.org>

DELAWARE

Delaware Public Archives
<archives.delaware.gov>

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Dig DC
<digdc.dclibrary.org>

FLORIDA

Florida Heritage Collection
<palmm.digital.flvc.org/islandora/object/palmm:fhp>

Florida Memory
<www.floridamemory.com>

University of Florida Digital Collections
<ufdc.ufl.edu>

GEORGIA

Digital Library of Georgia
<dlg.usg.edu>

Georgia Archives
<vault.georgiaarchives.org>

GUAM

Guam Genealogy
<guamgenealogy.atwebpages.com>

HAWAII

Hawai'i State Archives
<ags.hawaii.gov/archives>

IDAHO

Idaho State Historical Society
<history.idaho.gov/searchable-indexes>

ILLINOIS

Illinois Digital Archives
<www.idaillinois.org>

INDIANA

Indiana State Library: Genealogy Collection
<www.in.gov/library/online-resources>

IOWA

Iowa Digital Library
<digital.lib.uiowa.edu>

The Iowa Heritage Digital Collections
<www.iowaheritage.org>

KANSAS

Kansas Memory
<www.kansasmemory.org>

KENTUCKY

Kentucky Historical Society
<www.kyhistory.com>

LOUISIANA

Louisiana Digital Library
<www.louisianadigitallibrary.org>

MAINE

DigitalMaine Repository
<www.digitalmaine.com>

Maine Genealogy
<www.mainegenealogy.net>

MARYLAND

Digital Maryland
<www.digitalmaryland.org>

Maryland State Archives
<msa.maryland.gov>

MASSACHUSETTS

American Ancestors $
<www.americanancestors.org>

MICHIGAN

Michiganology
<www.michiganology.org>

MINNESOTA

Iron Range Research Center
<www.ironrangeresearchcenter.org>

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Digital Library
<www.msdiglib.org>

MISSOURI

Missouri Digital Heritage
<www.sos.mo.gov/mdh>

The State Historical Society of Missouri
<digital.shsmo.org>

MONTANA

Montana Memory Project
<mtmemory.recollectcms.com>

NEBRASKA

History Nebraska
<history.nebraska.gov/collections/research-resources-databases>

NEVADA

Nevada Library Cooperative
<nvlibrarycoop.contentdm.oclc.org>

NEW HAMPSHIRE

New Hampshire Genealogy & History
<www.nh.searchroots.com>

NEW JERSEY

New Jersey State Archives
<wwwnet-dos.state.nj.us/DOS_ArchivesDBPortal/index.aspx>

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Digital Collections
<econtent.unm.edu>

NEW YORK

New York Genealogical and Biographical Society $
<www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org>

New York Heritage Digital Collections
<www.nyheritage.org>

NORTH CAROLINA

Digital Library on American Slavery
<dlas.uncg.edu>

DigitalNC
<www.digitalnc.org>

North Carolina Digital Collections
<digital.ncdcr.gov>

The Southern Historical Collection
<dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm/archivalhome/collection/00ddd>

NORTH DAKOTA

Digital Horizons
<www.digitalhorizonsonline.org>

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Northern Mariana Islands Genealogy
<northernmarianaislandsgenealogy.atwebpages.com>

OHIO

Ohio Genealogical Society $
<www.ogs.org>

Ohio Memory
<www.ohiomemory.org>

OKLAHOMA

Digital Prairie
<www.digitalprairieok.net>

OREGON

Oregon Digital
<www.oregondigital.org>

PENNSYLVANIA

State Library of Pennsylvania
<www.statelibrary.pa.gov/General Public/Collections/Pages/default.aspx>

PUERTO RICO

Puerto Rico en Breve
<www.geneal.preb.com>

RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island Historical Cemetery Commission
<www.rihistoriccemeteries.org>

SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina Department of Archives and History
<scdah.sc.gov>

The South Carolina Digital Library
<www.scmemory.org>

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota State Historical Society
<history.sd.gov/archives/collectionindexes.aspx>

TENNESSEE

Digital Library of Tennessee
<tn.dp.la>

Tennessee Virtual Archive
<teva.contentdm.oclc.org>

TEXAS

The Portal to Texas History
<texashistory.unt.edu>

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

Caribbean Genealogy Library
<www.cgl.vi>

UTAH

Utah State Archives Name Indexes
<archives.utah.gov/research/indexes>

Utah State History Cemeteries
<history.utah.gov/cemeteries>

VERMONT

Vermont History
<www.vermonthistory.org>

VIRGINIA

Library of Virginia
<www.lva.virginia.gov>

WASHINGTON

Washington Rural Heritage
<www.washingtonruralheritage.org>

Washington State Archives—Digital Archives
<www.digitalarchives.wa.gov>

WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginia Archives and History
<www.wvculture.org/agencies/archives-and-history>

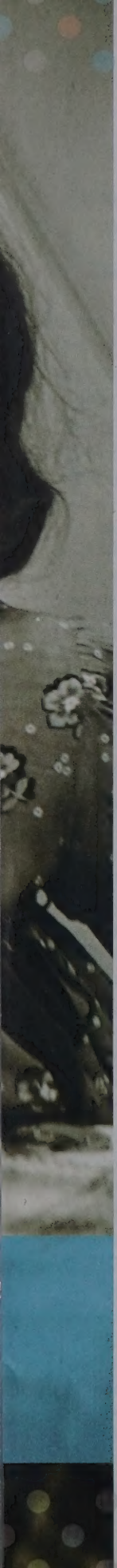
WISCONSIN

Wisconsin Historical Society
<www.wisconsinhistory.org/genealogy>

WYOMING

Wyoming Digital Newspaper Collection
<www.wyomingnewspapers.org>

Birthday Wishes



GEORGE MARKS/ISTOCK

No need to blow out the candles—you *can* resolve conflicting birthdates in records. Here's how.

by LINDSEY HARNER

A birthdate is one of the most basic facts about an ancestor's life. Yet determining the correct one can prove quite the challenge for genealogists.

Dates of death are literally carved in stone, and marriage dates have been recorded by churches for hundreds of years. Both regularly appeared in newspapers as obituaries and marriage announcements, respectively.

But birthdates are more likely to be a mystery—perhaps even to the individual him- or herself. People may simply have relied on what they were told by parents and other relatives, particularly before the adoption of government-issued vital records. Some localities kept records as early as the 1600s, but many states didn't adopt mandatory registration until the late 19th (or even early 20th) century.

The result is a wide variety of records (created throughout a person's life) that can provide birth information, with each document possibly reporting a different birthdate. How do you discern which is correct?

There isn't a straightforward answer, and you'll need to carefully evaluate each record. While you might not be able to determine an exact birthdate, examining records will hopefully provide at least a range of time.

In this article, I'll share five questions you should ask yourself when comparing birthdates across records. I'll also share a case study from my own research, in which I sifted through six different birthdates for an ancestor to determine which was the most accurate.

1 WHEN WERE THE RECORDS CREATED?

You can't guarantee that one type of record will always be accurate. But, in general, details in records are more reliable when the record was created close in time to the event being documented. People remember events more clearly when they're fresh in their minds, so give greater weight to records that were created soon after your ancestor's birth. Family Bibles or baptismal records, often created close to an infant's birth, are thus good sources in the absence of an actual birth certificate.

> **"Delayed" certificates documented those who were born before the adoption of civil registration, but needed proof of date of birth. Read for more <www.familytreemagazine.com/records/vital/delayed-birth-certificate>.**

Create a timeline that includes your ancestor's supposed birthdate, as well as when the various records documenting it were created. (I have an example as part of my case study on page 31.) Also consider that it's more difficult to misrepresent someone's age the younger they get. For example, it's unlikely that a 3-year-old would be mistaken for a 1-year-old. But a 10-year-old might be mistaken as an 8-year-old.

2 WHO WERE THE SOURCES OF BIRTH INFORMATION?

Records are only as accurate as the information given to the record-keeper, so consider who the informant was. This isn't always possible; early censuses, for example, didn't list who in the household provided information. But many records did require at least the mark of an informant.

Figure out what relationship—if any—the informant had with your subject. Immediate family members (especially parents) or others plausibly present at the birth like grandparents or aunts/uncles are more reliable witnesses to birth information than a distant cousin, child, or total stranger. Also consider if the informant was old enough to have witnessed and accurately remember the event they're reporting on. A local physician or midwife who attended the birth may have kept records of it, though these accounts are unusual.

3 CAN I CORROBORATE THE DATE WITH OTHER SOURCES?

Do several records point to the same date, or does one record's date contradict other documentation? If a new record you found disagrees with several other, reliable sources, you might have reason to doubt the new record's accuracy. Other records might have omitted birth information if the informants weren't certain of those details.

4 IS THIS BIRTHDATE PLAUSIBLE?

Certain conditions had to be ripe for a birth to take place. As such, you should consider the statuses of other family members on the supposed birthdate. For example, on the birthdate:

- The mother had to be alive
- The mother had to be of reproductive age (say, between the ages of 14 and 45)
- The father had to be alive and of reproductive age (i.e., at least 14 or 15 years old) nine months before the birth
- The father and mother had to be in the same geographic location nine months before the birth
- Any siblings born to the mother had to be at least nine months older or younger than the subject, unless the child was a twin, triplet, etc.

Also determine if you've located records that document the subject *before* they were supposedly born (for example, appearing on the 1850 federal census but having a reported birthdate in 1851). That would also suggest the birthdate is not possible.

Birth order plays a role, too. If you already know the subject's siblings were older or

tip

Though most US federal censuses only reported ages, you can reverse-engineer birthdates using them. For example, a 25-year-old in the 1870 census (taken on 1 June 1870) was likely born between 2 June 1844 and 1 June 1845. Compare these dates across censuses to home in on a specific birthdate.

GEORGE MARKS/ISTOCK

younger, the subject should have been born in the correct sequence relative to the siblings.

5 IS THERE A REASON THE SOURCE WOULD BE DISHONEST?

Then as now, people in your ancestor's time might have had reason to lie about their age. Men may have lied to enter (or avoid) military service, or parents adjusted a child's birthdate to cover him or her being born or conceived outside of marriage. Or maybe a woman fibbed about her age to so she appeared younger than her husband.

Others may have lied about theirs or someone else's age for more disreputable reasons. An informant might pretend to have valuable information about someone to demonstrate a relationship with them, or lie about their own life events to get a cut of someone's inheritance.

Birth Record Substitutes

No birth certificate? These records may also provide a birthdate:

- Baptismal records
- Family Bibles
- Guardianship records
- Doctor or midwife records or journals
- Military records: Draft registrations, enlistment records, pension applications, etc.
- 1900 census (listed month and year)
- Headstones
- Death certificates
- Newspaper items, such as the celebration of a birthday
- Obituaries
- Journals or letters written by a relative or neighbor

Case Study: The Many Birthdates of Thomas H. Higgins

My ancestor Thomas H. Higgins left behind records that reported at least six different birthdates. The following describes how I determined which was the most likely, and what criteria I used to evaluate the various records.

My research began with a nine-page biography written by my grandfather, which included copies of original records. According to the biography, Thomas' parents (James R. Higgins and Margaret Mousley) married 5 April 1855 and had a total of three children, of whom Thomas was the eldest.

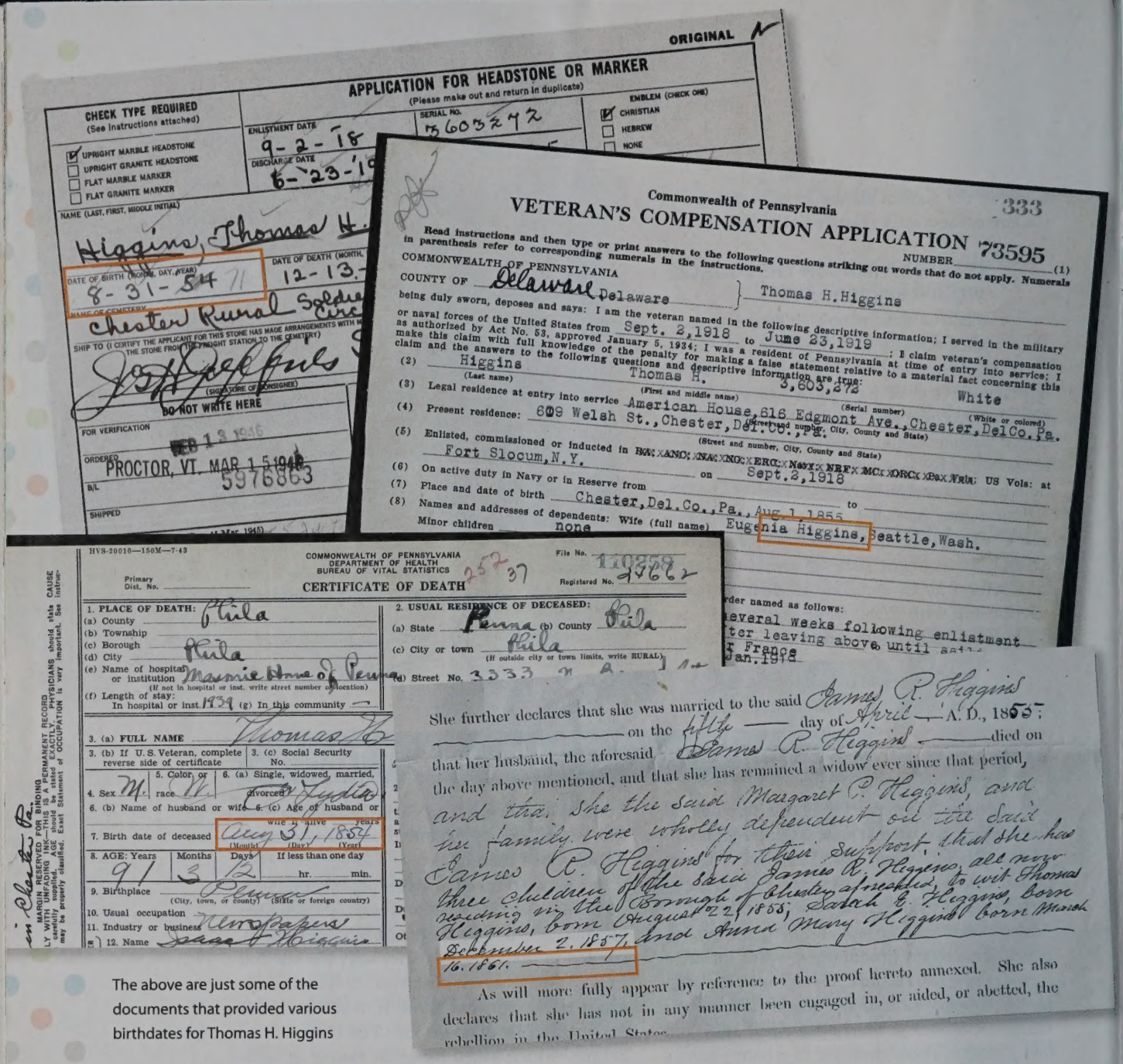
Other facts from Thomas' biography caught my eye and led me to more records, including:

- James died in the Second Battle of Bull Run (August 1862). Margaret, now a widow, applied for a pension.
- Thomas attended Girard College in Philadelphia.
- Thomas enlisted in the US military during World War I. Based on available information, he would have been in his 60s at the time—well over the maximum age of enlistment. He presumably lied about his age.

Both Margaret's Widow Army pension application (from the National Archives) and Thomas' application to Girard College (from the school itself) establish his birthdate as **9 December 1856**.

But as I researched more deeply, other records presented different dates and cast the December birthday into doubt. Thomas' marriage records, created in 1880 and 1891, give only his age, but I reverse-engineered his birthdate based on his age in each year and found it must have been earlier than December 1856. The 1900 federal census—which asked for birth month in addition to age—was another dissenter, reporting a birth month of August 1855.

From there, evidence for the August 1855 date began piling up. On a veteran's compensation application, Thomas gave his birthdate as **1 August 1855**. Thomas had lied about his age before, so I thought he perhaps did so here as well. But upon further review, I realized some of the records in Margaret's pension application provided conflicting birthdates for all three of her children. One document had Thomas' birthdate as 9 December 1856, but another had it as **22 August 1855**. Another critical document, Thomas' baptismal certificate, offered **4 August 1855**.


ORIGINAL

APPLICATION FOR HEADSTONE OR MARKER
(Please make out and return in duplicate)

CHECK TYPE REQUIRED (See instructions attached)
☑ UPRIGHT MARBLE HEADSTONE
☐ UPRIGHT GRANITE HEADSTONE
☐ FLAT MARBLE MARKER
☐ FLAT GRANITE MARKER

ENLISTMENT DATE 9-2-18
DISCHARGE DATE 6-23-19
SERIAL NO. 3603242
EMBLEM (CHECK ONE) ☑ CHRISTIAN ☐ HEBREW ☐ NONE

NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE INITIAL) Higgins, Thomas H.
DATE OF BIRTH (MONTH, DAY, YEAR) 8-31-54
DATE OF DEATH (MONTH, 12-13-
NAME OF CEMETERY Chester Rural Cemetery
SHIP TO (I CERTIFY THE APPLICANT FOR THIS STONE HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH M... THE STONE FROM THE FREIGHT STATION TO THE CEMETERY)
(SIGNATURE OF CONSIGNEE)
DO NOT WRITE HERE
FOR VERIFICATION
ORDERED FEB 13 1946 PROCTOR, VT. MAR 15 1946
B/L 5976863
SHIPPED

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
VETERAN'S COMPENSATION APPLICATION 73595
333
NUMBER (1)

Read instructions and then type or print answers to the following questions striking out words that do not apply. Numerals in parenthesis refer to corresponding numerals in the instructions.

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
COUNTY OF Delaware } Thomas H. Higgins

being duly sworn, deposes and says: I am the veteran named in the following descriptive information; I served in the military or naval forces of the United States from Sept. 2,1918 to June 23,1919 ; I claim veteran's compensation as authorized by Act No. 53, approved January 5, 1924; I was a resident of Pennsylvania at time of entry into service; I make this claim with full knowledge of the penalty for making a false statement relative to a material fact concerning this claim and the answers to the following questions and descriptive information are true:

(2) Higgins (Last name) Thomas H. (First and middle name) 3,603,242 (Serial number) White (White or colored)
(3) Legal residence at entry into service American House, 616 Edgmont Ave., Chester, Del.Co., Pa. (Street and number, City, County and State)
(4) Present residence: 809 Welsh St., Chester, Del. Co., Pa.
(5) Enlisted, commissioned or inducted in ~~BA: ANC: NAC NC: ERC: Navy: NRF: MC: ORC: Pax: NRA:~~ US Vols: at Fort Slocum, N.Y.
(6) On active duty in Navy or in Reserve from Sept. 2, 1918 on
(7) Place and date of birth Chester, Del. Co., Pa., Aug. 1, 1855 to
(8) Names and addresses of dependents: Wife (full name) Eugenia Higgins, Seattle, Wash.
Minor children none

...rder named as follows:
...everal weeks following enlistment
...ter leaving above, until ...
...r France
...Jan. 1919

HVS-20010—150M—7-43
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
Primary Dist. No.
File No. 119359
Registered No. 24662
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1. PLACE OF DEATH: (a) County Phila (b) Township (c) Borough (d) City Phila (e) Name of hospital or institution Mannie Home of Penna (If not in hospital or inst. write street number or location) (f) Length of stay: In hospital or inst. 1939 (g) In this community
2. USUAL RESIDENCE OF DECEASED: (a) State Penna (b) County Phila (c) City or town Phila (If outside city or town limits, write RURAL) (d) Street No. 3333 N. A...
3. (a) FULL NAME Thomas H...
3. (b) If U. S. Veteran, complete reverse side of certificate 3. (c) Social Security No.
4. Sex M 5. Color or race W 6. (a) Single, widowed, married, divorced? Widowed
6. (b) Name of husband or wife 6. (c) Age of husband or wife if alive years
7. Birth date of deceased Aug 31, 1854 (Month) (Day) (Year)
8. AGE: Years 91 Months 3 Days 12 If less than one day hr. min.
9. Birthplace Phila (City, town, or county) (State or foreign country)
10. Usual occupation
11. Industry or business Newspapers
12. Name Isaac H. Higgins

MARGIN RESERVED FOR BINDING
...LY WITH UNFADING INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD
...ERIOUS DELAY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE ... may be properly classified. Exact Statement of OCCUPATION is very important. See instruc...

...in Chester Pa.

She further declares that she was married to the said James R. Higgins on the fifty day of April A. D., 1855; that her husband, the aforesaid James R. Higgins died on the day above mentioned, and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, and that She the said Margaret R. Higgins, and her family were wholly dependent on the said James R. Higgins for their support, that she has three children of the said James R. Higgins, all now residing viz: Thomas Chester Higgins, born August 22, 1855; Sarah E. Higgins, born November 2, 1857, and Anna Mary Higgins born March 16, 1861.

As will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed. She also declares that she has not in any manner been engaged in, or aided, or abetted, the rebellion in the United States

The above are just some of the documents that provided various birthdates for Thomas H. Higgins

Subsequent research into Thomas' death certificate and an application for a veteran's headstone corroborated August as his birth month, but gave a different day and year: **31 August 1854**. The latter record was made even more confusing because someone crossed out 1854 and scribbled in 71—were they suggesting Thomas was born on **31 August *1871***?

What to do? With all this conflicting information, I resolved to look at each source in turn, considering when and how it was created as well as how reliable it was for other details. Here the records are in reverse order of age; see the chart on page 31 for a timeline.

Veteran's Headstone Application

Thomas' daughter, Ruth ("Mrs. R.J.") Wolf, applied for a special veteran's headstone for Thomas in February 1946, a few months after Thomas' death. The birthdate Ruth provided initially matched the one she supplied for her father's death certificate (31 August 1854), but someone seemingly changed it to 31 August 1871.

Applications for these headstones were likely checked against military service records—which may have had falsified birth information for Thomas. By reporting a later birth year (say, 1871) on military documents, Thomas would

COURTESY LINDSEY HARNER, RECORDS FROM ANCESTRY.COM AND FOLD3

AT-A-GLANCE: Conflicting Birthdates

Year created	Document name	Informant	Reported birthdate
1946	Veteran's headstone application	Mrs. R.J. Wolf (Thomas' daughter)	31 August 1854 or 31 August 1871
1945	Death certificate	Mrs. R.J. Wolf (Thomas' daughter)	31 August 1854
1934	Veteran's compensation application	Thomas Higgins	1 August 1855
1864	Girard College application	Margaret Higgins (Thomas' mother)	9 December 1856
1864	Widow's Army pension application (supporting record)	Margaret Higgins (Thomas' mother)	9 December 1856
1862	Widow's Army pension application (supporting record)	Margaret Higgins (Thomas' mother)	22 August 1855
1856	Baptismal certificate	unknown	4 August 1855

have presented himself as younger and thus been able to enlist in World War I. The record-keeper changed the date from 1854 to 1871 to make it consistent with existing military documents, but ultimately reinforced Thomas' lie from decades earlier.

I could also disregard the 1871 date for two other reasons: Thomas' father died nine years earlier in 1862, and I had other documentation of Thomas in the intervening years.

Death Certificate

As previously mentioned, Thomas' daughter Ruth was the informant for his 1945 death certificate, in which she noted his birthdate as 31 August 1854. Ruth was something of an unreliable witness for his birth; as Thomas' daughter, she couldn't have had firsthand knowledge. She was also incorrect on at least one other key piece of information about Thomas: She identifies his father as an *Isaac* Higgins.

Furthermore, the 1854 birth year was earlier than reported in any other record I located—and earlier than his parents' documented marriage in 1855. It's likely that Ruth incorrectly remembered or miscalculated Thomas' birth year based on his age when completing these records.

Veteran's Compensation Application

In 1934, Thomas applied for benefits stemming from his service in World War I, and reported his birthdate as 1 August 1855. That choice is an interesting one; I'd already established he enlisted with a fake birth year of 1871, so that date shouldn't match the one in his service records. But this document doesn't show any correction. Perhaps, given the many years that had passed, Thomas didn't remember the 1871 birth year he reported when he enlisted, and so provided what he honestly believe was his birthdate.

Girard College Application

In April 1864, Thomas was admitted into Girard College in Philadelphia. According to *A Brief History of Girard College*, the school was established for "poor white male orphans." The college became the legal guardian of the boys who attended the school, and was a desirable prospect for Thomas because it offered him educational opportunities he likely wouldn't have had elsewhere, as well as room and board.

To enroll him at Girard, Margaret (Thomas' mother) needed to firmly establish that James Higgins was Thomas' father and that he was deceased. On the application, she reported

> **Learn more about birth records in Sunny Morton's guide <www.familytreemagazine.com/records/vital/birth-records-guide>.**

Thomas' birthdate as 9 December 1856. To erase any doubt about the identity of Thomas' father, perhaps that date was a fib. With an August 1855 birthdate, Thomas was born only a *few* months after his parents' marriage. A December 1856 birthdate (*20 months* after James and Margaret's marriage) would have been more socially acceptable, and laid to rest any possible questions about Thomas' paternity.

Widow's Pension Application

Next we come to Margaret's pension application, which included several supporting documents—some of which were, as we'll see, in disagreement about certain dates.

One of the records was created on 22 March 1864, and listed Margaret's children as having the following birthdates:

- Thomas: 9 December 1856
- Sarah Elizabeth: 1 December 1858
- Anna Mary: 16 April 1860

But another document, created in September 1862, lists the children's birthdates as:

- Thomas: 22 August 1855
- Sarah E(lizabeth): 2 December 1857
- Anna Mary: 16 March 1861

Margaret was the informant on both records, as indicated by the *X* by her name.

I considered how accurate the records were for other information. Based on other research, I identified at least two errors in the 1862 record:

- Anna Mary could not have been born in 1861 because she was listed as an infant in the 1860 census.
- James' death date is given as 9 August 1862, but the Second Battle of Bull Run (in which James was killed) didn't take place until later that month. Military records have his death date as 30 August.

By contrast, I didn't find any documents that contradicted the 1864 record (except for Thomas' disputed birthdate). The 1856 birthdate for Thomas, reported in that record, is certainly plausible: Both of his parents were alive, in their mid-20s, and married both at time of conception and birth.

But that may have been by design. As in Thomas' application to Girard, Margaret needed to establish, without doubt, that James was Thomas' father. Otherwise, she wouldn't be eligible for benefits. Admitting that Thomas was born in August 1855, just four months after her marriage, may have left her open to uncertainty about Thomas' paternity.

Baptismal Record

The gold standard of birth record substitutes: the baptism certificate. Thomas', dated March 1856, presents his birthdate as 4 August 1855. As the earliest record of Thomas that I've found, the baptism certificate carries a particular weight. If the certificate is correct, it would obviously preclude a December 1856 birthdate.

But it's not foolproof. The certificate doesn't name an informant, and it lists Thomas' father as a Thomas Higgins (contradicting all other sources).

CONCLUSION

The balance of evidence suggests that Thomas Higgins was born sometime in August 1855. The earliest records mentioning Thomas' birth—his baptism certificate and a record from Margaret's pension application—support a birthdate in that month, though I can't yet establish an exact date among the competing options.

The 1854 date came from much later documents and a single informant (Thomas' daughter) who didn't have first-hand knowledge of Thomas' birth. And I could dismiss the 1871 date out of hand, given the various documentation I had of Thomas before that year.

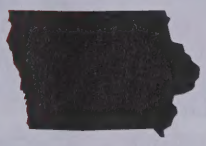
The other leading candidate, 9 December 1856, only appeared later, in 1864. Margaret, as Thomas' mother, would have had first-hand knowledge of his birth. But she only reported the 1856 date when she had a motive to be dishonest, likely to hide the fact that Thomas was born only four months after her marriage. The incorrect 1856 was then picked up in the biography my grandfather wrote. ●

Lindsey Harner has been researching ancestors since 2013. She is the owner of Lindsey's Histories <www.lindseyshistories.com>, which provides professional genealogy research services throughout Pennsylvania and upstate New York.

RESEARCH GUIDE

IOWA

by RICKI KING



DO YOU VIEW IOWA AS A FLYOVER STATE? OR perhaps your ancestors considered it a "passthrough" state, traveling through Iowa by wagon on their way farther West?

Hopefully, we can change your mind. Plenty of settlers made permanent homes in Iowa, and the state is well known today for its corn and soybeans. But Iowa is more than farmers, pigs, and cows. Here, you'll find fields and fields of genealogy records, and a rich history that will make you want to learn even more about the Iowans in your family.

HAWKEYE HISTORY

Like other Great Plains states, what is now Iowa was claimed by France in the 1600s. Frenchmen Louis Jolliet and Jacques Marquette, who explored the region in 1673, were the first Europeans documented as having been to what is now Iowa. European settlement in the 17th and 18th centuries was sparse, limited mostly to fur traders.

The "Louisiana" region changed hands from France to Spain in 1762 and back again just before 1803, when the United States purchased it. Iowa was part of various territories throughout the early 19th century, with territorial governance shifting as new states were created: Louisiana (1803–1812; briefly administered by Indiana Territory), Missouri (1812–1821), "unorganized territory" (1821–1834), Michigan (1834–1836) and Wisconsin (1836–1838).

The westward movement of US settlers sparked conflict with indigenous populations already living there, notably the Fox (Meskwaki) and Sac (Sauk). Sac leader Black Hawk led allied tribes in the "Black Hawk War" against the US government in 1832. At its conclusion, the tribes were forced to concede the "Black Hawk Purchase," a 40-to-50-mile stretch of land that ran along the Mississippi River—altogether, some 6 million acres. The combined Sac and Fox are the only federally recognized tribe in the state today, and live on an 8,600-acre settlement; other tribes (including the Sioux and the state's namesake Iowa people) were forced out of Iowa.

Settlement began in earnest after these land cessions. Iowa's first two cities, Dubuque and Burlington (territorial capital from 1834), were founded soon after the end of the Black Hawk War. Iowa's 1836 population was roughly 10,500 residents, growing to 43,000 by 1840 and 192,000 by 1850. Iowa became a territory in its own right in 1838, and included parts of Minnesota and the Dakota. Iowa then became a state (with its modern borders) in 1846.

Though known for being a "free state" (and admitted to the Union at roughly the same time as Florida, a slave state), Iowa included populations of the enslaved who were brought to the area. At least one sale took place in Iowa City before statehood, and the 1840 census shows several enslaved people in the territory, including 11 who held by then-Surveyor-General George Wallace Jones. The first Iowa Supreme Court case involved Ralph Montgomery, an enslaved man sent to Iowa Territory who sought his freedom. (In the 1839 case, the court ruled in Montgomery's favor.) Even after statehood, the enslaved could be brought into the state without automatically becoming free if they came only for short periods, a significant loophole.

Following the Fugitive Slave Act, the Iowa legislature passed a law "prohibit[ing] the naturalization of free negroes into this state." Alexander Clark, Sr., who went on to become one of the first

FAST FACTS

STATEHOOD:
1846

FIRST FEDERAL CENSUS:
1840 (as territory); 1850 (as state)

BIRTH AND DEATH RECORDS BEGIN:
1880

MARRIAGE RECORDS BEGIN:
from formation (county); 1880 (state)

CONTACT FOR VITAL RECORDS:
IA Dept. of Public Health

Black men to graduate from the University of Iowa, organized a petition for the law to be repealed. Though the legislature rebuffed him, Clark (and his son) became a lawyer, and successfully sued for his daughter to attend a school that had been segregated by race.

Iowa remained in the Union during the Civil War. Though no major battles took place there, Iowa sent large supplies of food (as well as some 76,000 troops, a huge percentage of its comparatively small population) to the war effort.

The majority of Iowans, historically as well as today, are white, with notable populations of English, German, Dutch, Norwegian and Irish descent. However, the state also has sizeable Black, Native American, Latino, Asian and Pacific Islander communities. Many Black workers and Italian immigrants were drawn to Iowa in the 1880s to work in the coal mines and on railroads. And in 1975, Iowa welcomed the first refugees from Vietnam and Laos.

Iowa was also a state of several firsts for women and African Americans, often leading the way in court decisions regarding civil rights: one of the first states to allow interracial marriages (1851), the first to prohibit racial segregation in schools (1868), and the first to grant a woman the right to practice law (1869).

VITAL RECORDS

Iowa first mandated vital registration in 1880, but it's estimated that only about 50 percent of births and deaths from that year through 1921 were actually recorded. Some communities kept documents before the state mandate; a chart from the IAGenWeb Project indicates when records began for each of Iowa's 99 counties <www.iagenweb.org/state/research/bmdguide.htm>.

The State Historical Society of Iowa (SHSI) <www.iowaculture.gov/history> has collections of county vital records, with microfilm collections for mostly pre-1940 events. Researchers can access birth records more than 75 years old and—thanks to a 2018 change in access law—death records more than 50 years old.

You can also request copies of post-1880 vital records (including those more-recent than the ones held by SHSI) from the department of health <idph.iowa.gov/health-statistics/vital-records>. The same privacy restrictions as at SHSI apply here. As of 2022, adoptees can access noncertified copies of their original, birth certificates.

Marriage records were kept earlier and with more consistency than birth and death records. Individual counties documented marriages as early as 1835; get copies from the county clerk of the district court office or (for post-1916

DAVID MARK/PIXABAY

TIMELINE

1673
Louis Jolliet and Jacques Marquette explore the upper Mississippi River Valley, the first Europeans documented as having done so

1803
The United States purchases Louisiana; Iowa is organized into Louisiana Territory

1832
At the end of the "Black Hawk War," the Fox and Sac people cede major tracts of land to the US government; more land cessions follow

1834
After years of being "unorganized," Iowa is part of the Territory of Michigan, then Wisconsin Territory two years later

1838
Iowa Territory is incorporated

Covered bridge in Madison County

marriages) the department of health. Marriage records more than 75 years old are open to the public. Divorce records were first created at the county level in 1834, with state registration beginning in 1906.

FamilySearch <www.familysearch.org> and Ancestry.com <www.ancestry.com> each have collections of Iowa vital records for various years. Of note, FamilySearch has a collection of pre-1934 county marriage record images <www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1805551>.

IOWA ENUMERATIONS

Iowa is especially strong for census records, which go above and beyond Iowa's first federal census as a state in 1850. The government conducted territorial censuses in Iowa in 1836, 1838 and 1844, though not all counties participated in every enumeration. And a special census was taken of the Sac and Fox Nation between 1836 and 1840.

Iowa state censuses were taken between from 1846 through 1851, then every two years from 1852 to 1856.

1846
Iowa joins the Union as the 29th state

1851
The Iowa state government creates 49 new counties in the western part of the state

1857
Humboldt County is created from Webster County, the last major change to Iowa's county boundaries; the capital moves to Des Moines

1942
The Sullivan family from Waterloo makes national headlines when five of their sons die on the same day while serving in World War II

1972
Iowa becomes the first contested state in the presidential primary season, attracting national media attention every four years

TOOLKIT

Websites

Cyndi's List: Iowa <www.cyndislist.com/us/ia>

Des Moines Cemetery Interment Search <cemetery search.dsm.city>

FamilySearch Research Wiki: Iowa <www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Iowa,_United_States_Genealogy>

IAGenWeb <www.iagenweb.org>

Iowa Culture YouTube channel <www.youtube.com/c/IowaCulture>

The Iowa Heritage Digital Collections <www.iowaheritage.org>

Iowa Land Records <iowalandrecords.org/portal>

Linkpendium: Iowa <www.linkpendium.com/ia-genealogy>

Publications

Annals of Iowa (State Historical Society of Iowa)

Iowa Atlas of Historical County Boundaries edited by John H. Long (Charles Scribners Sons)

Iowa: The Middle Land by Dorothy Schweider (University of Iowa Press)

Archives & Organizations

Des Moines Public Library <www.dmpl.org> (Research > Local History & Genealogy)

Iowa Digital Library (University of Iowa) <digital.lib.uiowa.edu>

Iowa Genealogical Society <www.iowagenealogy.org>

Iowa Women's Archive <www.lib.uiowa.edu/iwa>

National Archives at Kansas City <www.archives.gov/kansas-city>

State Historical Society of Iowa <www.iowaculture.gov/history>

University of Northern Iowa: Special Collections <scua.library.uni.edu/classification-schedule>

A decennial (every-10-year) state census from 1885 to 1925 helps complement the federal census, notably the destroyed 1890 federal enumeration. The 1925 census is especially detailed in asking for parents' names and mother's maiden name.

Ancestry.com has a collection of Iowa territorial and state censuses from 1836 to 1925 (including the Sac and Fox census) <www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1084>. FamilySearch has state censuses from 1856 to 1925. (Only FamilySearch has 1905 state census images; Ancestry.com has just an index for that year's census.)

You can find federal census records at each of the major genealogy websites. The most recent enumeration is the 1950 census, and the 1890 census has largely been lost.

OTHER RECORDS

Find your Iowan ancestors in other documents, including:

- **Land records:** Iowa is a public-land state, and a general survey using the township-and-range format began in the 1830s. Patents could be purchased from the US government, but some settlers simply encroached on land as Native Americans left it. Iowa Land Records <iowalandrecords.org/portal> has statewide deeds, with coverage varying by county. Request patents from the Bureau of Land Management's General Land Office <glorecords.blm.gov>.
- **City directories:** Ancestry.com, FamilySearch and MyHeritage <www.myheritage.com> all have Iowa city directories. Archive.org <www.archive.org> and the Des Moines Public Library <www.dmpl.org/research/local-history-genealogy/historic-city-directories> have published Des Moines directories from as early as 1866. Find Dubuque directories from 1856 at <cityofdubuque.advantage-preservation.com>.
- **Governor and prison records:** These include documents from the governor's files, many of them pertaining to pardon or clemency requests. Such petitions might include character witnesses and names of relatives or neighbors—maybe even of a whole town. Also included in governor's files are trial transcripts (which can contain genealogically useful personal information) and reports on the whereabouts of recently released prisoners. Likewise, prison records include registers of convicts, which you can supplement by looking for case records at the county. SHSI holds governor's records, and Ancestry.com has some prison records <www.ancestry.com/search/collections/60384>.

Ricki King is the owner of Roots to Branches Genealogy, LLC <www.rootstobranchesgenealogy.com>. She holds a certificate from Boston University's Genealogical Studies Program as well as a bachelor's in history from Drake University, and completed the ProGen program. She's written for the *NGS Quarterly* and presented a webinar on Black migration into Iowa for the SHSI's "Iowa History 101" series.

CHEAT SHEET

ROOTSMAGIC

COMPILED BY ANDREW KOCH

The Basics

WHAT IS ROOTSMAGIC?

RootsMagic <www.rootsmagic.com> is one of the leading genealogy software programs, allowing you to easily create, edit and publish your family tree from the comfort of your desktop. The program, available for PCs (Windows 7 SP1+ and later), Macs (macOS 10.13 and later), and iOS and Android devices, boasts robust editing, citation and export options, as well as partnerships with Ancestry.com <www.ancestry.com> and FamilySearch <www.familysearch.org>.

PRODUCTS

VERSION	COST	FEATURES
RootsMagic Essentials <www.rootsmagic.com/try/rootsmagic>	free	• Family tree creation and editing • Unlimited storage capacity • Multimedia support: images, sound clips, videos, Word documents, PDFs • Predefined fact types: birth, marriage, death, etc. • Source-citation tools and data-error analysis • Printable reports, including pedigree charts and family group sheets • Sortable lists of people, places, dates, sources and repositories • Record hints for Ancestry.com, FamilySearch, MyHeritage and Findmypast (optional) • Compatibility with GEDCOM files, the FamilySearch Family Tree, files from Family Tree Maker and other software, and more • Backup and restore functions to preserve work
RootsMagic	$39.95 (new license) $29.95 (upgrade from previous version)	• All of the RootsMagic Essentials features • More-robust search functionality, including WebSearch tool for searching online records databases • Customizable fact types and source templates • Additional export options: saving as PDF or DOCX, publishing large-format charts • Additional family tree views • Direct syncing with Ancestry.com family trees (optional) • Tasks page, containing: to-do lists, goals, research logs • Free technical support
RootsMagic mobile app <www.rootsmagic.com/app>	free	• Syncing capability with the desktop version via iTunes or Dropbox • Pedigree family, descendant, and individual views of your family tree

QUICK LINKS

RootsMagic home page <www.rootsmagic.com>

RootsMagic Blog <blog.rootsmagic.com>

RootsMagic Community <community.rootsmagic.com/c/rootsmagic/5>

RootsMagic Store <www.rootsmagic.com/store>

RootsMagic Support <support.rootsmagic.com/hc/en-us>

RootsMagic User Groups <www.rootsmagic.com/user-groups>

RootsMagic Users Facebook group <www.facebook.com/groups/rootsmagicusers>

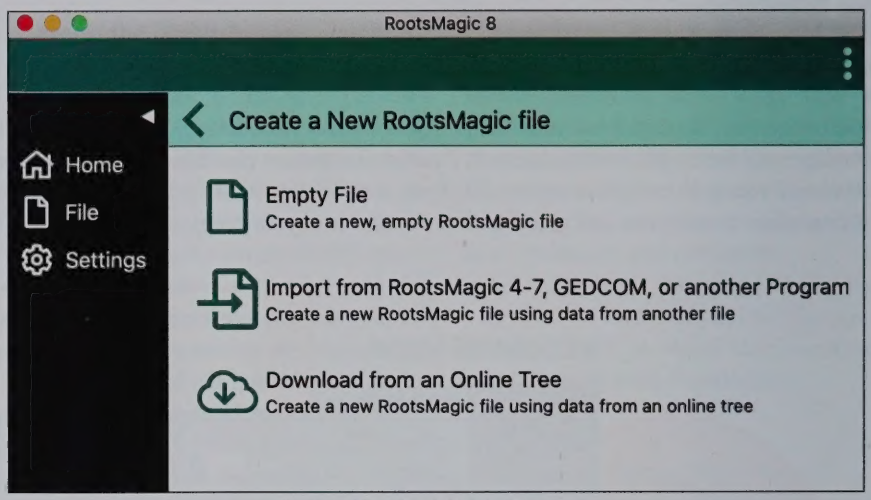
RootsMagic webinars <www.rootsmagic.com/webinars>

RootsMagic Wiki <wiki.rootsmagic.com/wiki/Main_Page>

When you first open RootsMagic, you'll be presented with several options for starting a new tree: Create a new file from scratch, open an existing file, restore a backup, or RootsMagic To-Go (which allows you to install and run the software on a USB drive).

The options for "Create a New RootsMagic file" are at right. Using Empty File, you can build a new tree natively within RootsMagic. You also have the ability to import a tree from another software program or an online tree, and convert it to a RootsMagic file.

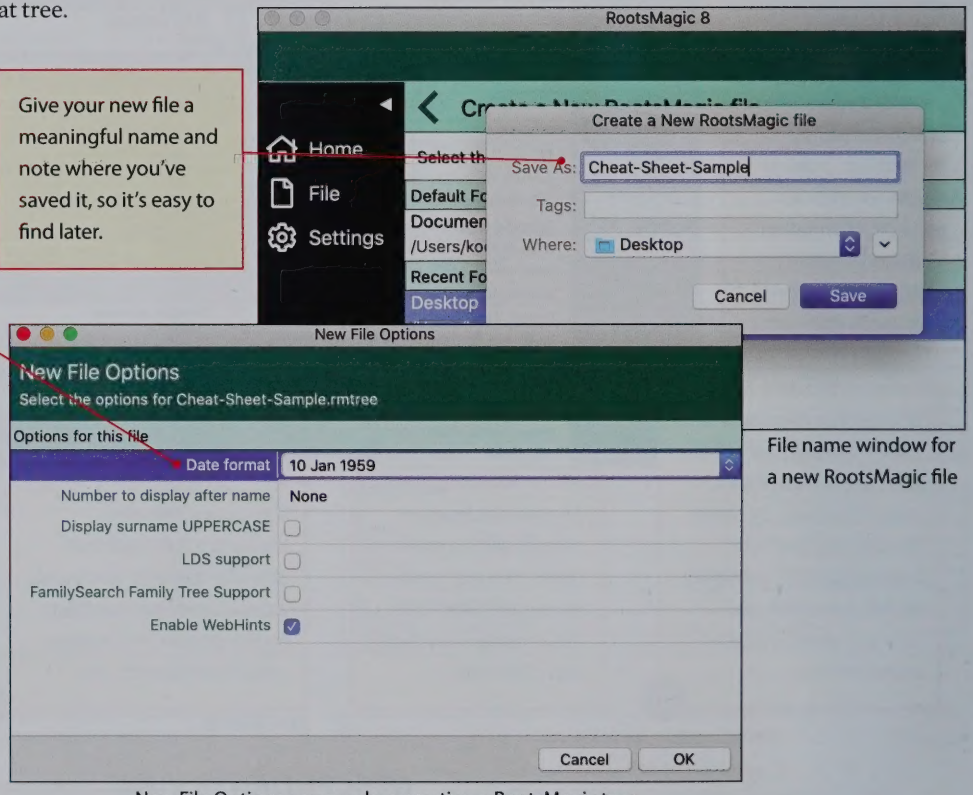
You can access these New File options at any time by clicking File from the main toolbar. Under File, you can also import or export data to/from that tree.


RootsMagic 8
Home
File
Settings
Create a New RootsMagic file
Empty File
Create a new, empty RootsMagic file
Import from RootsMagic 4-7, GEDCOM, or another Program
Create a new RootsMagic file using data from another file
Download from an Online Tree
Create a new RootsMagic file using data from an online tree

Create a New RootsMagic File screen

Give your new file a meaningful name and note where you've saved it, so it's easy to find later.

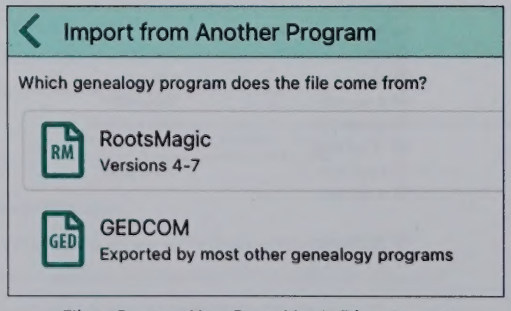
You can customize your file's settings, including how dates are formatted and whether you have help from the FamilySearch Family Tree. (Access these options in an existing tree under the Settings tab.)



File name window for a new RootsMagic file

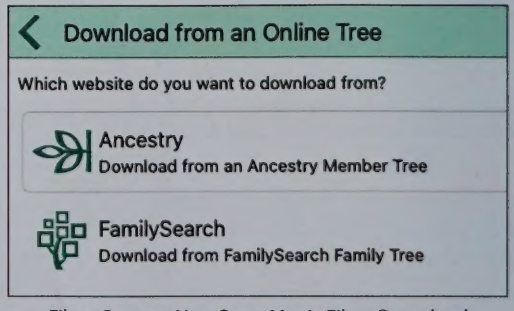
New File Options screen when creating a RootsMagic tree

You cannot directly open files from earlier versions of RootsMagic in RootsMagic 8. You must import and convert them using the Create a New RootsMagic File menu.



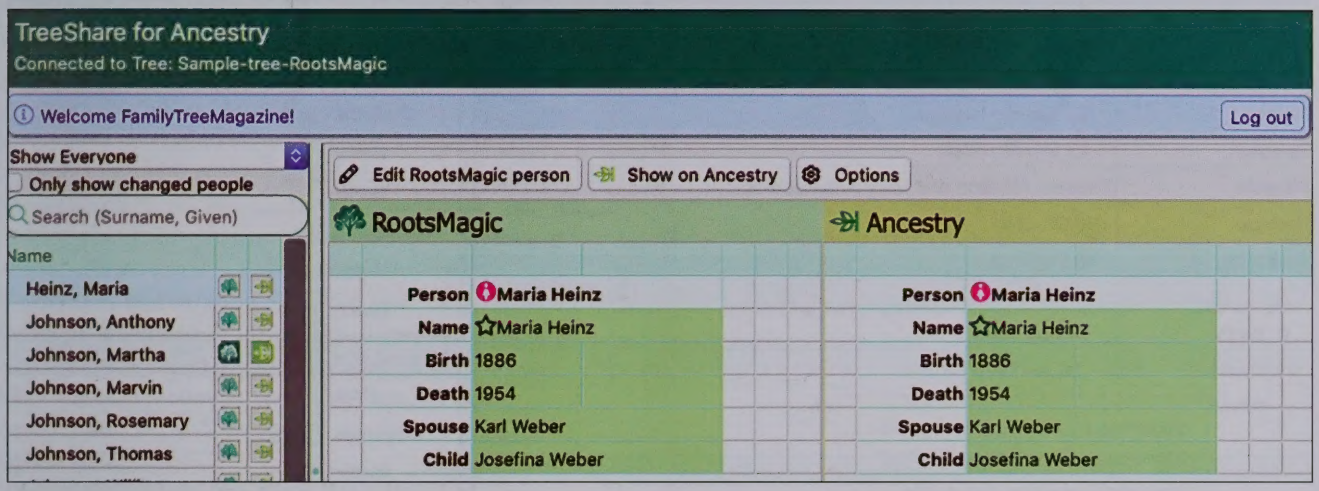
File > Create a New RootsMagic File > Import From RootsMagic 4-7, GEDCOM, or another Program

You can import existing family trees from previous versions of RootsMagic, GEDCOM files from other programs, or online trees at Ancestry.com or FamilySearch.


Download from an Online Tree
Which website do you want to download from?
Ancestry
Download from an Ancestry Member Tree
FamilySearch
Download from FamilySearch Family Tree

File > Create a New RootsMagic File > Download from an Online Tree

Ancestry.com Syncing



TreeShare review page for a RootsMagic family tree that's synced with a tree on Ancestry.com

RootsMagic boasts TreeShare, a feature that allows changes made in a RootsMagic tree to be reflected in a tree on Ancestry.com <www.ancestry.com> (and vice versa). This allows the two trees to become synchronized, streamlining your research process.

To begin, open a RootsMagic tree, then click the Ancestry.com logo (a leaf) at the bottom of the main menu. Log in to your Ancestry.com account, and you'll see an option to either upload a RootsMagic file as a new Ancestry.com tree or download an existing Ancestry.com tree as a new RootsMagic file. (Note that you can't sync an already-existing RootsMagic file with an already-existing Ancestry.com tree; one must have been created using the other.)

You can then create a new tree on one of the two programs. Those two trees will be linked, and you'll see a screen that compares facts in them (above). Facts in green are the same between the two trees. But facts in yellow have discrepancies, and have an arrow next to them. Click the arrow on the RootsMagic side to update the event as written in that tree, and click the arrow on the Ancestry.com side to do the reverse.

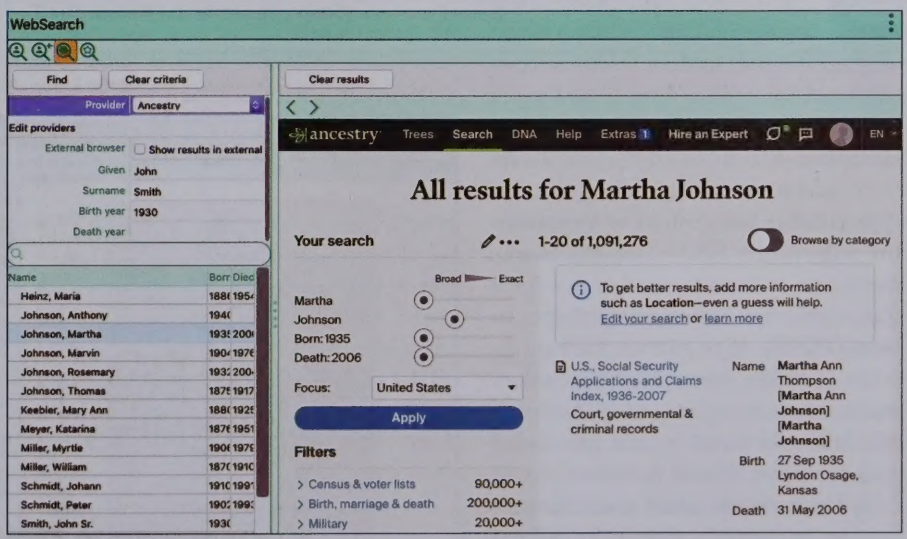
From that screen, you can also edit the RootsMagic profile or show the person in Ancestry.com. (The latter will open your computer's web browser.)

Note that you do not *need* to resolve inconsistencies between the two trees if you don't want to (for example, if you're still verifying information).

Finding Records using WebSearch

Through WebSearch, you can find online records for people in your RootsMagic tree from the comfort of your desktop software. Go to Search > WebSearch (the third icon), then select a person of interest and customize what details you want to use as search terms.

Select a provider from the drop-down. Current options include Ancestry.com, FamilySearch, Findmypast <www.findmypast.com>, Find a Grave <www.findagrave.com>, GenealogyBank <www.genealogybank.com> and Google <www.google.com>. You'll need to be signed in to a paid account to view restricted records on subscription sites.



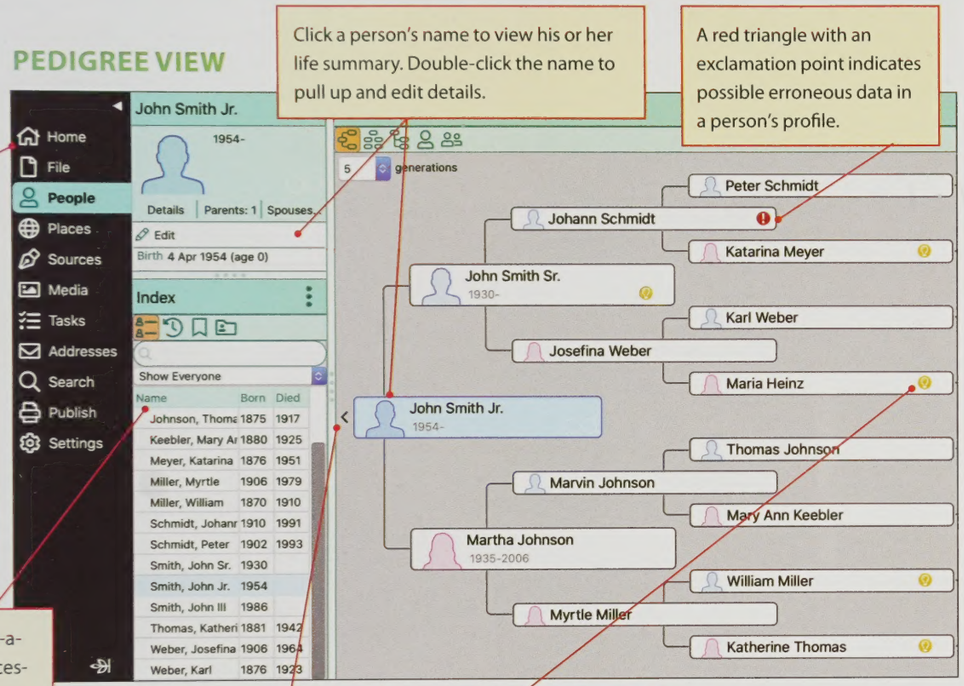
WebSearch results from Ancestry.com

NAVIGATING ROOTSMAGIC

The Main Screen

Go to the People tab to view and edit your family tree. RootsMagic lets you view your tree in multiple ways via tabs for Pedigree (a multi-generational chart), Family (the person plus his or her spouse, parents, parents-in-law, and children), Descendants (a list of this person's children, grandchildren, etc.), People (where you can sort ancestors alphabetically) and Couple List (where you can see all married couples in your tree).

PEDIGREE VIEW



The main toolbar allows you to create or open a RootsMagic file, add to or edit people in your tree, search the program for relatives, publish reports or a book, and edit information including sources, media, addresses and your to-do list.

Click a person's name to view his or her life summary. Double-click the name to pull up and edit details.

A red triangle with an exclamation point indicates possible erroneous data in a person's profile.

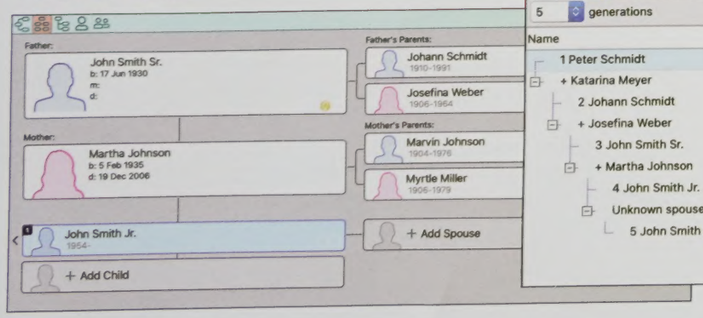
This sidebar gives an at-a-glance view of your ancestors. The default, Index, sorts individuals by name. You can also see your viewing history, bookmark certain ancestors, and create custom Groups of ancestors.

An arrow indicates parts of the person's family tree aren't currently displayed. Click the arrow to view that part of the tree.

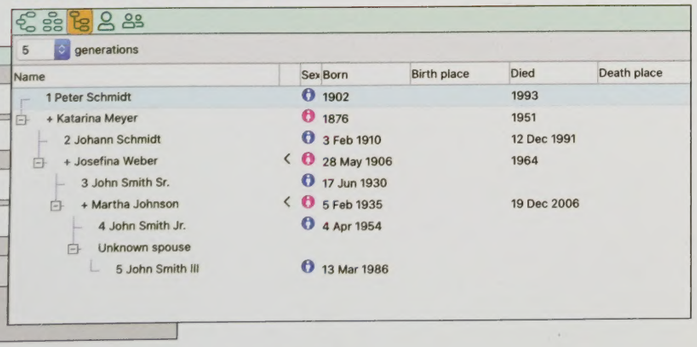
If you have WebHints enabled, a light bulb indicates RootsMagic has found a possible record match(es) for the person on Ancestry.com, FamilySearch, etc.

Increase your tree's font size by visiting Settings > Display Settings, then adjusting the Font Scaling slider.

FAMILY VIEW



DESCENDANTS VIEW


5 generations
Name Sex Born Birth place Died Death place
1 Peter Schmidt 1902 1993
+ Katarina Meyer 1876 1951
2 Johann Schmidt 3 Feb 1910 12 Dec 1991
+ Josefina Weber 28 May 1906 1964
3 John Smith Sr. 17 Jun 1930
+ Martha Johnson 5 Feb 1935 19 Dec 2006
4 John Smith Jr. 4 Apr 1954
Unknown spouse
5 John Smith III 13 Mar 1986

CREATING REPORTS

RootsMagic has several export options that allow you to visualize your data and share it with others. Under the main toolbar, click Publish to view your options. The program highlights four report types:

A. Pedigree Chart: This traditional family tree can include four, five or six generations, similar to RootsMagic's Pedigree View.

B. Family Group Sheet: View individual groups of parents and their children, similar to Family View.

C. Narrative Report: Generate a written history of a person's life and ancestry, organized by generation and compiled from the Sentence fields of facts.

D. Fan Chart: A person's ancestors arch out in circles in this more-visual display, with color-coded names or lines.

From the Publish page, click All Reports and Charts for more options:

- **Ahnentafel:** A list of a person's ancestors numbered according to the Ahnentafel system, which assigns set numbers based on relationship
- **Box Chart:** An ornate family tree
- **Photo Tree:** A tree that includes photos of a person and their ancestors (photos must be designated "Primary" for a profile to appear)
- **Relationship Chart:** An annotated graph that shows the relationship between two people
- **Timeline List:** A chronological list of life events for just one person or for a whole group of people

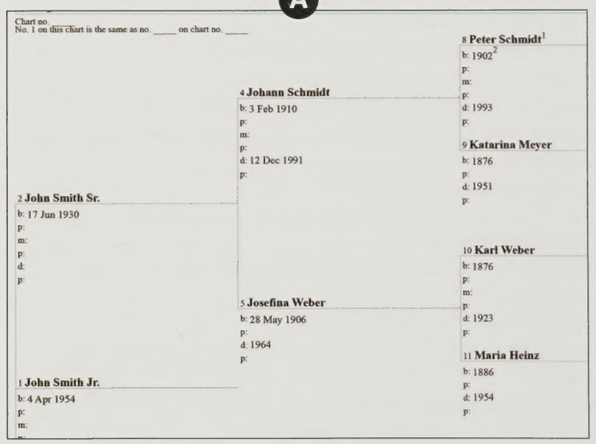
By default, RootsMagic sorts reports alphabetically, but you can also filter by type (e.g., forms or large-sized charts).

Each report presents you with various customization options, such as which person to start with, who to include and what page size to use. (Note that some chart types, such as Ancestor Chart, are designed to be used as larger displays.) You can even include sources (e.g., endnotes) and edit fonts.

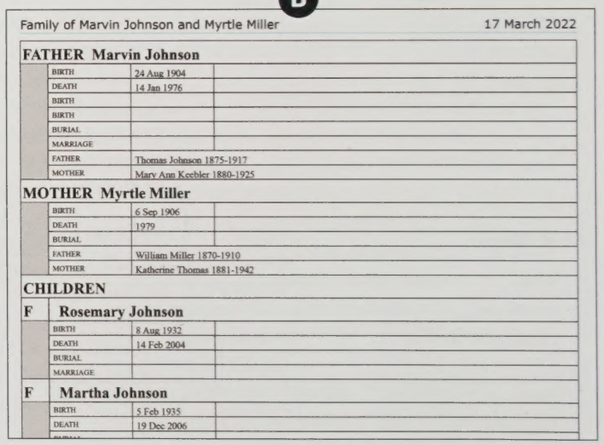
Click Generate Report to finish. You can save the report as various file types (such as PDF or Word document) or print directly from RootsMagic.

The Fan Chart is new to RootsMagic 8 and is ideal for determining what ancestral lines still need research. You can also customize its shape and colors.

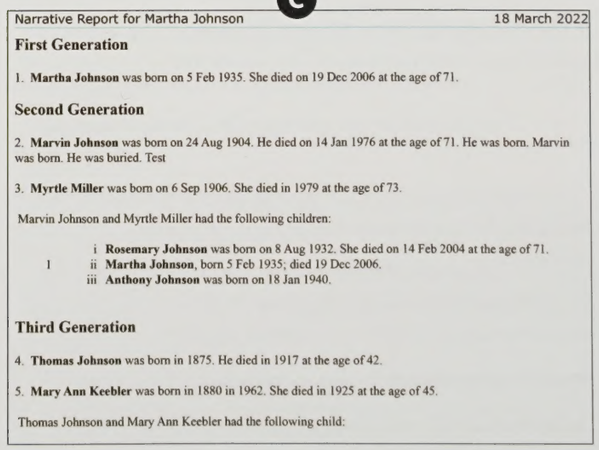
A



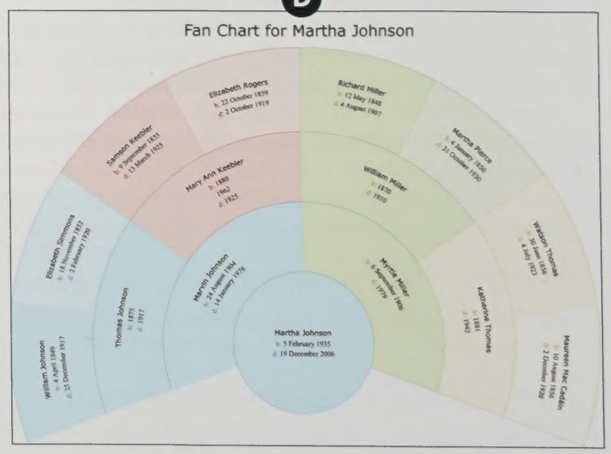
B



C


Narrative Report for Martha Johnson
18 March 2022
First Generation
1. Martha Johnson was born on 5 Feb 1935. She died on 19 Dec 2006 at the age of 71.
Second Generation
2. Marvin Johnson was born on 24 Aug 1904. He died on 14 Jan 1976 at the age of 71. He was born. Marvin was born. He was buried. Test
3. Myrtle Miller was born on 6 Sep 1906. She died in 1979 at the age of 73.
Marvin Johnson and Myrtle Miller had the following children:
1 i Rosemary Johnson was born on 8 Aug 1932. She died on 14 Feb 2004 at the age of 71.
ii Martha Johnson, born 5 Feb 1935; died 19 Dec 2006.
iii Anthony Johnson was born on 18 Jan 1940.
Third Generation
4. Thomas Johnson was born in 1875. He died in 1917 at the age of 42.
5. Mary Ann Keebler was born in 1880 in 1962. She died in 1925 at the age of 45.
Thomas Johnson and Mary Ann Keebler had the following child:

D

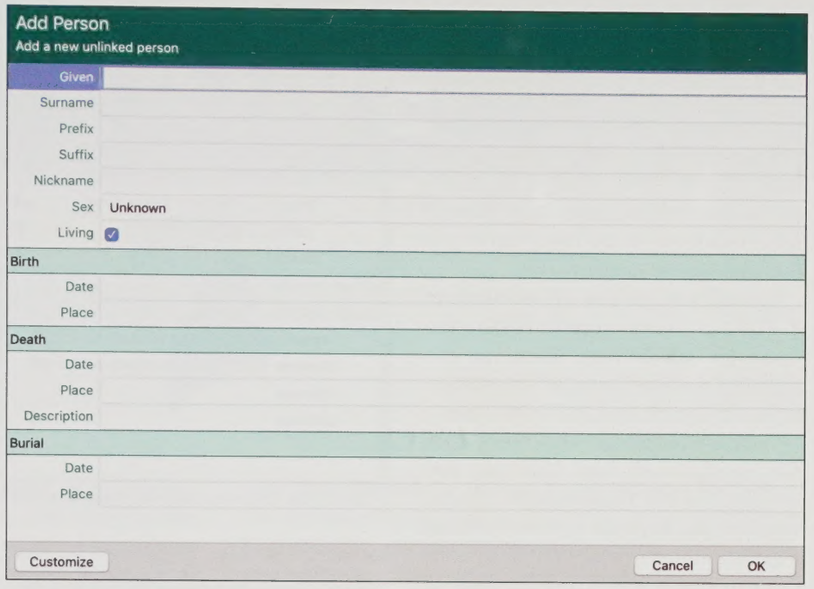


Adding a Person

The quickest way to add a person to your family tree is to click People tab of the main toolbar, then the + icon. Another way, when viewing your tree in Pedigree or Family views, is to click the appropriate box for "add father/mother/child."

Next, you'll fill out the "Add a new person" form (right). Enter as much information as you know. You can use the small calendar or calculator icon in the Birth, Death and Burial fields to select dates. To change the fields that appear here, click "Customize" at the bottom left.

For places, click the globe icon to select a place you've listed before or find a location in RootsMagic's gazetteer.



Adding and Editing Facts and Media

1 View details. To bring up a person's detailed profile page, double-click his or her name in the sidebar index or in any family tree view. Here you'll see the information you've added about an ancestor in order of occurrence, with columns that indicate details about the event:

- **Age,** calculated from the person's birthdate
- **Facts** presented in chronological order by the person's listed age, with a row for each event
- **Date**
- **Details:** Place, other person, or description associated with an event
- **Sticky note icon (Notes):** Add custom text to a person or a fact/life event. Clicking the Note bar will open up a kind of word processor.
- **Pen icon (Sources):** With a fact selected, click the Sources box to attach a citation. Under Add Source Citation, you can select a source from a directory of existing citations, or add a new one. (See all sources by clicking the Source tab in the main menu.)
- **Image icon (Media):** RootsMagic can attach images, files, videos or sounds to a fact. Click to view or add media. You can even drag and drop from your browser. (See all items by clicking the Media tab in the main menu.)

The last two columns indicate tasks associated with that event and what other person (if any) shares that event, respectively.

You can edit an existing event by selecting it from the list and making changes in the right column, or remove it by selecting it and clicking the trash can icon.

2 Select a fact type. To add a new fact, click the + sign. You'll be presented with a list of pre-made fact types/life events to select from. (You can also design a new, custom fact type by clicking the button.) Edit a fact type's settings by selecting the fact and clicking the Edit button. Once you're satisfied with the fact's settings, click OK.

3 Enter information. Next, you'll see a form where you can enter details for the event you chose. The form fields differ based on the fact type.

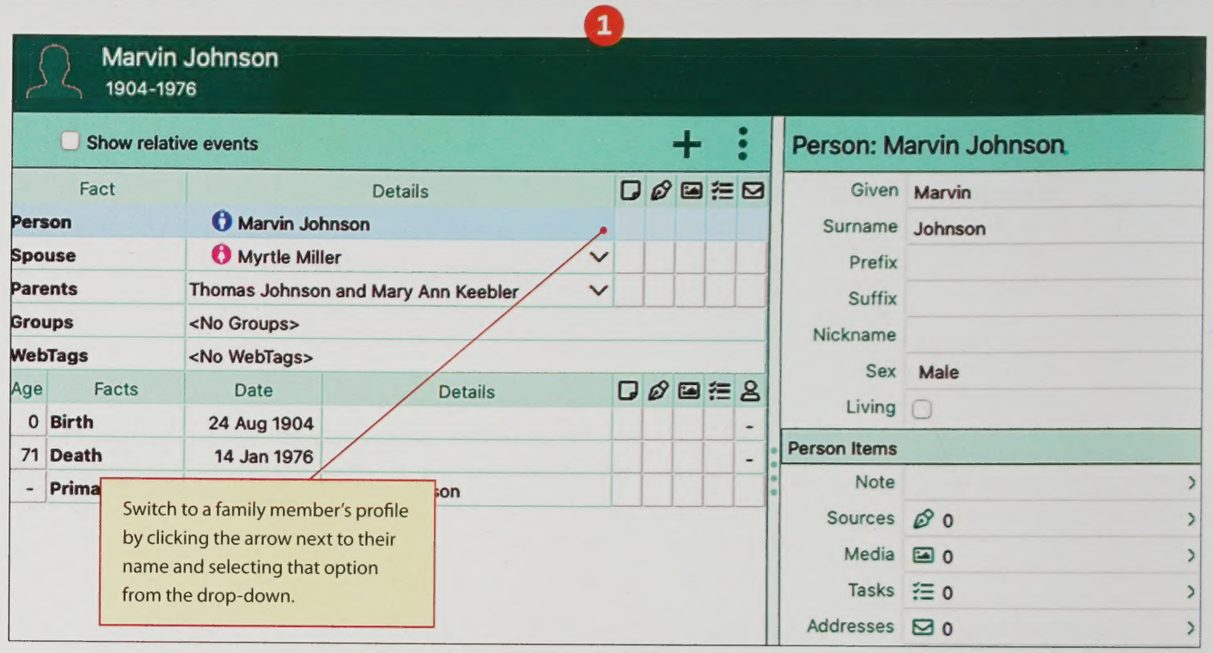
You can take advantage of shortcuts to standardize your information. In date fields, you can calculate age based on birthdate using the calculator icon or manually select a standardized date using the calendar icon. In the Place field, click the magnifying glass to select a place from RootsMagic's gazetteer, or select a place name from your Place List of previously used locations. You can also add place details, such as an address or the name of a hospital or cemetery.

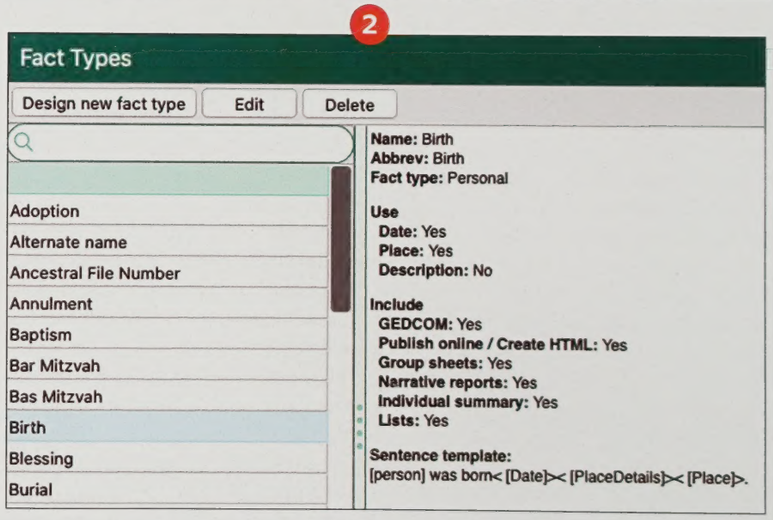
Remember to click the check icon to save changes.

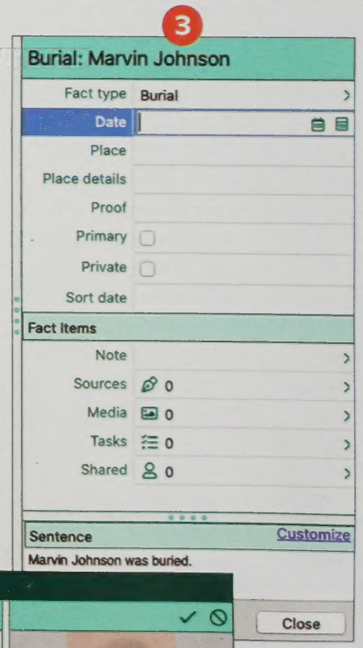
4 Add media. You can add media either to a person (for example, a portrait) or to a fact (such as a record image or gravestone photo). Select the Media box with either the person or one of their facts selected. In the resulting menu, select "Add New Media" to upload a new file or "Selected Existing Media" to attach a file you've already uploaded.

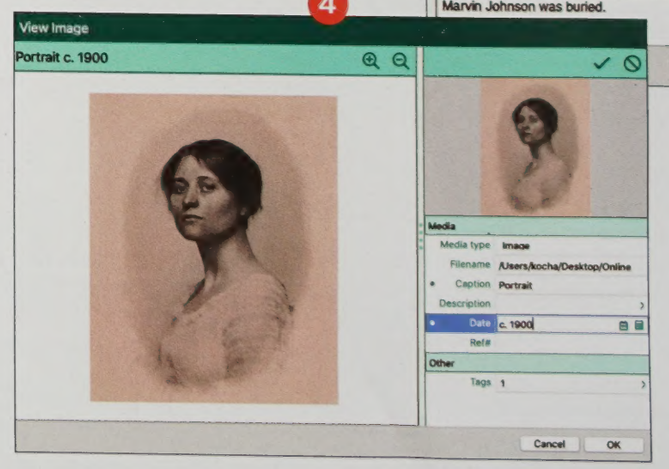
To add a new item, select the file type (Image, File, Sound or Video). In the File Name field, click the document icon to browse your device for a compatible file. Follow the prompts to locate the file, then edit the file's properties (caption, description, date taken and reference number). "Tags" refer to which family members are associated with the file. Click OK to upload.

You can double-click a media item to view and edit its details anywhere across the program.









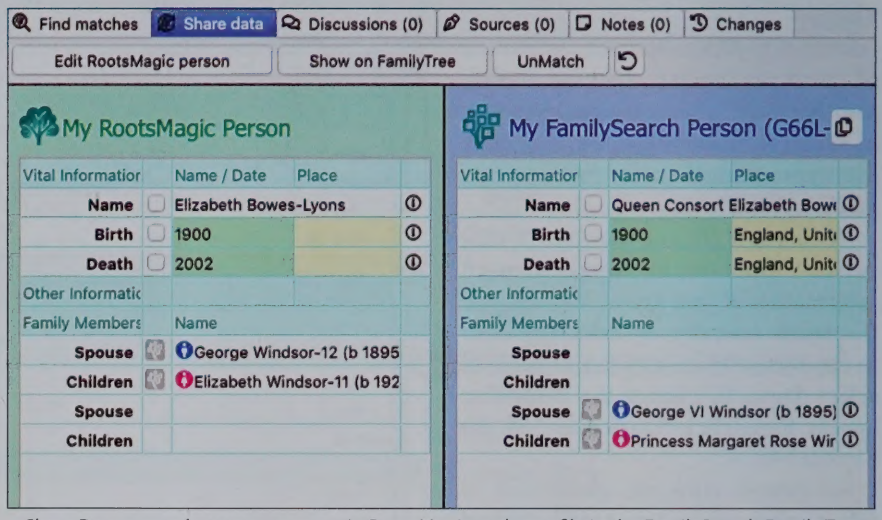
FamilySearch Matching and Data Exchange

As with Ancestry.com, RootsMagic has some compatibility with family tree data on FamilySearch <www.familysearch.org>. However, because FamilySearch has one single Family Tree (rather than separate trees created by different accountholders), users can't directly sync trees between the two programs in the same way as Ancestry.com.

Instead, you can link a person in your RootsMagic tree to a profile in the FamilySearch Family Tree. Then you can push out updates made in RootsMagic to FamilySearch, one profile at a time.

With a RootsMagic tree open, click the FamilySearch logo (the tree, bottom left). In the FamilySearch Central window, you have the option of finding matches between your RootsMagic file and the FamilySearch Family Tree or clicking AutoMatch (which does this work for you). The search function looks for FamilySearch profiles that have similar names and vital details to those in your RootsMagic tree; yellow boxes indicate any different information. Click Match to link.

Once you've connected them, you can click Share Data to compare details between the two programs' profiles. Again, yellow indicates fields with different information. Select what fields you want to change, then review. Approved changes will overwrite the information on FamilySearch. Add your reasoning in the box below Ok so other users will follow your line of reasoning. Click Changes to view recent edits to that FamilySearch profile—including those made by other FamilySearch users.



Share Data screen between a person in RootsMagic and a profile in the FamilySearch Family Tree

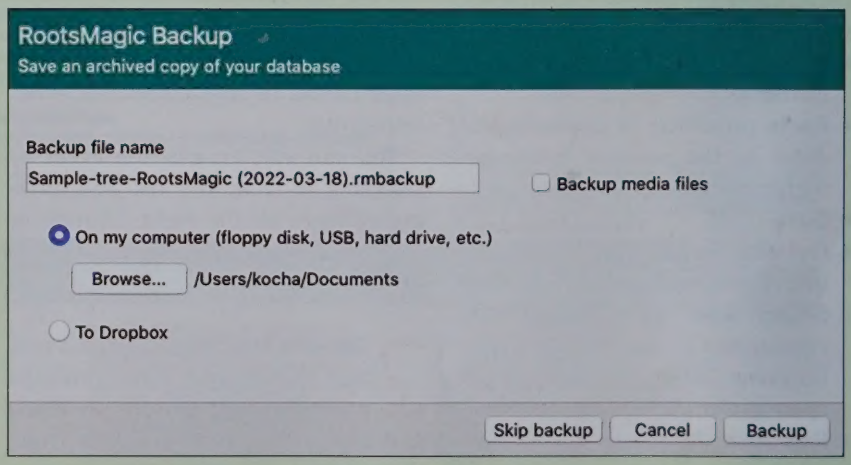
You can also import a portion of the Family Tree to RootsMagic. From the FamilySearch Central window, click Import, then enter the person's unique FamilySearch ID number and indicate how many generations you want to include. The FamilySearch profiles will be added to the RootsMagic database you have open, and they automatically match to the Family Tree.

BACKING UP YOUR DATA

RootsMagic automatically saves your work. However, to help prevent data loss, RootsMagic also automatically prompts you to save your data as a "backup file" every time you close a file or exit the program.

The Backup screen (right) allows you to select a place for an archived copy of your database. You can save either to your computer's hard drive or to Dropbox. The default file name is the current file name plus the date, allowing you to store multiple backups.

By default, RootsMagic copies the media links when creating the backup—but not the media files themselves (such as digitized photos and documents). Click the appropriate box if you also want to backup media files along with the data. You may want to hold off on doing so, however; media files can take up a lot of space, and saving another set on the same hard drive doesn't provide you with any extra security.



Backup data pop-up

The window gives you the option to Skip Backup. To turn off the backup reminder, uncheck the box for "Ask for Backup" under Settings > Program Settings (the sliding bar icon).

RESEARCH GUIDE

MAINE

by B.J. JAMIESON

MAINE'S ICONIC ROCKY COAST—AND ITS abundant food—has been a major attraction for centuries, as was the forested interior that could be harvested for houses and ships (particularly for the British navy). That carries through today, with tourists flocking to Maine's gorgeous summer beach days, glorious fall colors, and consistent winter snow.

But Maine's natural beauty is compounded by its deep history—and a forest full of genealogical documents. Here's how to research your ancestors from the state.

MAINE HISTORY

English merchants and religious dissidents first traveled to Maine in the early 1600s, as did French missionaries and explorers. Early European settlements sparked conflict with the indigenous populations who already lived there: the Passamaquoddy, Maliseet, and Penobscot, among others.

Though part of the United States since its inception, Maine was not nominally one of the original 13 colonies. The "Province of Maine" was first granted to Englishmen Sir Ferdinando Gorges and Captain John Mason in 1622, then split with a new Province of New Hampshire in 1629. Maine was absorbed by the neighboring Massachusetts Bay Company in the 1650s; the area remained part of Massachusetts until 1820.

Maine's placement at the intersection of New England and New France (specifically, Acadia) made it a battleground in several conflicts between the English, French and their various indigenous allies throughout the 17th and 18th centuries. Local tribes successfully pushed back English settlers as part of King Philip's War (1675–1678), and soon after formed the Wabanaki Confederacy for collective defense. The Confederacy again succeeded against the English in King William's War (1688–1697), but ultimately was unable to thwart permanent settlement.

Massachusetts encouraged settlement in "the Maine district" throughout the 1700s by offering settlers land. However, the region's settler population remained low until after the Revolutionary War, when military bound land grants encouraged migration to New England's northern frontier.

Maine became its own state in 1820 as part of the Missouri Compromise. A free state, Maine was admitted at the same time as a slave state (Missouri) to maintain a balance of power. The state capital was initially Portland, but moved to Augusta in 1827.

Increased settlement led to conflict with UK-held Canada. The "Aroostook War" in 1838 over disputed territory was devoid of armed fighting, but technically not bloodless; two British soldiers were injured by bears. The incident resulted in the 1842 Webster-Ashburton Treaty, which established the modern Maine-Canada border.

In the 19th century, the wool and cotton mills built as part of the Industrial Revolution required waterpower (which was plentiful in Maine) to operate. Towns like Biddeford, Lewiston and Sanford prospered as young people flocked to jobs in the mills, first from the farms in surrounding rural areas and later from Quebec.

Maine staunchly supported the Union during the Civil War, supplying a high proportion of its population as servicemen throughout the war effort. In fact, many towns have monuments to this day that honor local servicemen who died.

FAST FACTS

STATEHOOD:
1820

FIRST FEDERAL CENSUS:
1790 (as part of Massachusetts)

BIRTH AND DEATH RECORDS BEGIN:
1600s (local); 1892 (state)

MARRIAGE RECORDS BEGIN:
1600s (local); 1892 (state)

CONTACT FOR VITAL RECORDS:
ME Dept. of Health and Human Services

With the development of railroads in the mid-1800s making travel faster and easier, many Mainers left to settle in the new midwestern and plains states, which had longer growing seasons, flatter land and better soil. As a result, many people "from away" discover they have Maine roots.

The same railroads that facilitated the westward migration from Maine also brought one of Maine's primary modern industries: vacationland. Tourism continues to be a large part of Maine's economy.

Today, Maine's population is still heavily of English descent, with notable populations of Irish, French and German descent. Maine is the state with the highest percentage of residents living outside metropolitan areas; most of the population lives in the rural southern part of the state.

LIVING IN THE PINE TREE STATE

Maine first required statewide vital registration in 1892. County courthouses created the original records, then sent copies to the state. FamilySearch holds microfilmed vital records from the years 1892 to 1921, plus some earlier records <www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1803978>. Records are arranged by era, then surname and type of record. Note that minor name variants may be combined.

The Maine State Library has records from 1922 to 1955. More-recent records must be ordered from the state department of vital records <www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/data-research/vital-records/order/index.shtml>, which has custody of all post-1892 records. Only direct descendants and other authorized individuals can order birth records less than 75 years old, marriage records less than 50, and death records less than 25.

Some towns kept vital records before 1892, but coverage is sporadic. Some marriage records, for example, date to the 1600s but include only the name of the bride and groom. Copies of pre-1892 records were supposed to be forwarded to the state in the 1920s, but only about 20% of towns did so. The Maine Genealogical Society has a guide to which town records are online and which have been published in hard copy <www.maineroots.org/research/44-uncategorised/research-links/541-maine-towns-with-vital-records>. And the state archives have an index of known pre-1892 town vital records <www.maine.gov/sos/arc/research/genealogy.html>.

COUNTING MAINERS

Maine has appeared in every federal census, but early returns for a few places are missing. Though Maine was part of Massachusetts until 1820, the National Archives and several websites categorize Maine returns under their own heading even before that time. Find federal censuses from 1790 to 1880 and 1900 to 1950 at major genealogy websites. (The 1890 has largely been lost.)

The Maine Genealogical Society has created a multi-volume set of Maine households as they were listed in the 1790 census. As of this writing, the set is 12 volumes and includes a free downloadable index <www.maineroots.org/shop/maine-families-in-1790/product/6-maine-families-in-1790-vol-12-89>.

Maine took just one state census, but returns for all but Portland, Bangor, and unincorporated towns were destroyed. Find surviving (albeit, unindexed) record images at Digital Maine <www.digitalmaine.com/state_census_1837> and FamilySearch.

The state also conducted an 1864 voter list that serves as a kind of census, created to allow Civil War Soldiers to cast absentee ballots. Images are at FamilySearch <www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/1923493>.

OTHER RECORDS

Find your Mainer ancestors in these other records:

- **Cemetery records:** The free database Find a Grave <www.findagrave.com> includes many Maine cemeteries. FamilySearch has two notable collections of cemetery records specific to Maine: the Faylene Hutton collection <www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2242151> and the Nathan Hale collection <www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2241461>. The Maine Old Cemetery Association <www.moca-me.org> also has extensive documentation related to older cemeteries in Maine, with hardcopy records at the Maine State Library.
- **Military records:** Records for those from the District of Maine who served in the Revolutionary War and

TIMELINE

1604
Samuel de Champlain explores the Maine coastline; a short-lived French settlement is established on Saint Croix Island

1622
England grants land for the "Province of Maine," then divides the area between Maine and New Hampshire seven years later

1677
After years of de facto ownership, the Massachusetts Bay Colony formally absorbs the Province of Maine

1691
William III and Mary II charter the Province of Massachusetts Bay; Maine is administered as York County

1780
The District of Maine is incorporated into the nascent Commonwealth of Massachusetts, one of the original 13 states

Cadillac Mountain at Acadia National Park

1820
Maine separates from Massachusetts and becomes the 23rd state in the Union as part of the Missouri Compromise

1842
The United States and United Kingdom agree to the modern Maine-Canada border after the "Aroostook War" incident

1860
Knox County is created from Lincoln and Waldo Counties, the last major change to Maine's county boundaries

1898
The USS *Maine* sinks in Havana Harbor, sparking US enthusiasm for war against Spain

1947
Forest fires destroy more than 17,000 acres in Maine, including 10,000 acres of Acadia National Park

TOOLKIT

Websites

Cyndi's List: Maine <www.cyndislist.com/us/me>

Digital Maine <www.digitalmaine.com>

FamilySearch Research Wiki: Maine <www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Maine,_United_States_Genealogy>

Linkpendium: Maine <www.linkpendium.com/me-genealogy>

Maine Genealogy <www.mainegenealogy.net>

Maine Memory Network <www.mainememory.net>

MEGenWeb <www.mainegenweb.org>

Publications

Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire by Sybil I. Noyes, Charles Thornton Libby, Walter Goodwin Davis, and David Curtis Dearborn (New England Historic Genealogical Society)

Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research, 6th edition by Rhonda R. McClure (New England Historic Genealogical Society)

The Length and Breadth of Maine by Stanley Bearce Attwood (University of Maine Press)

Maine Families in 1790, 12 volumes, by Ruth Gray, Alice MacDonald Long, Joseph C. Anderson, and Lois Ware Thurston (Picton Press)

Pioneers of Maine and New Hampshire 1623 to 1660: A Descriptive List by Charles Henry Pope (New England Historic Genealogical Society)

Archives & Organizations

Acadian Archives/Archives Acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent <www.umfk.edu/archives>

Maine Genealogical Society <www.maineroots.org>

Maine Franco-American Genealogical Society <www.mfgen.org>

Maine Historical Society <www.mainehistory.org/gen_overview.shtml>

Maine State Archives <www.maine.gov/sos/arc>

Maine State Library <www.maine.gov/msl>

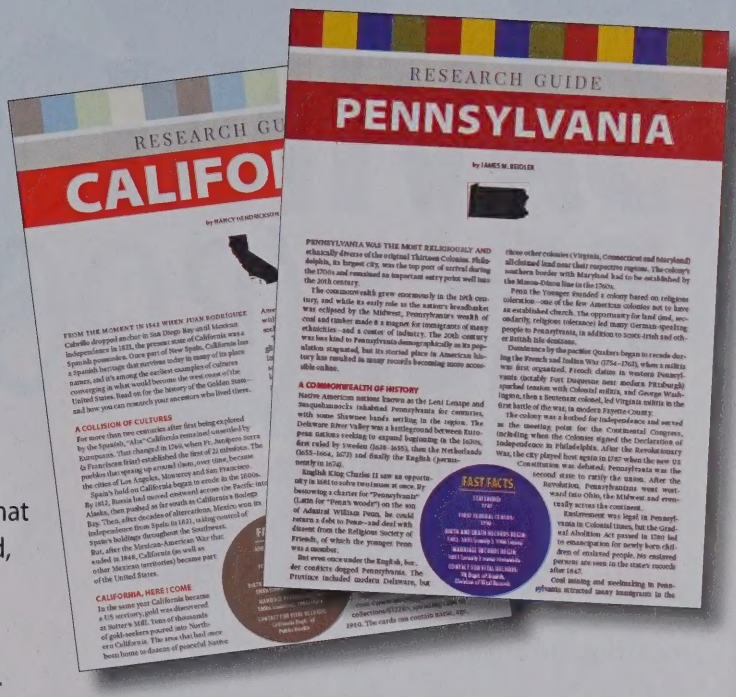
National Archives at Boston <www.archives.gov/boston>

the War of 1812 are generally held at the Massachusetts State Archives. But it's the Maine State Archives that holds considerable military personnel records for later conflicts, including the Civil War and World War I. Some of Maine's Civil War records (including portraits of many soldiers) have been digitized <www.digitalmaine.com/civil_war>.

- **Land records:** The 18-volume *York Deeds* (available several places online) transcribes deeds for Maine from before 1737. (York was the only county in Maine until 1760.) Maine has a centralized portal for deeds <www.maineregistryofdeeds.com>. Other land records, including deeds granted by both Massachusetts and Maine and Revolutionary War bounty-land warrants from the 1830s, are available from the Maine State Archives.
- **Probate records:** Probate records are kept at the county level in Maine. Many are available at FamilySearch <www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2040534>, with more-modern records at <www.maineprobate.net/welcome>.
- **Court records:** For court proceedings up to 1929, the Maine State Archives holds the original records of all courts that have operated in Maine (except for Lincoln County, for which microfilm copies are available). Most of these have been digitized and are available at FamilySearch (<www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2040534> and other collections).
- **Newspapers:** Maine newspapers can be an excellent source of genealogical data, especially given the relative lack of vital records before 1892. The Maine Newspaper Project <www.digitalmaine.com/newspapers> catalogs digitized publications, and Digital Maine hosts an older (1999) but fairly comprehensive newspaper list <www.digitalmaine.com/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1071&context=msl_docs>. Additional titles are available at MyHeritage <www.myheritage.com> and Newspapers.com <www.newspapers.com>.
- **Alien registrations:** At the start of World War II, Maine required all non-citizen adults living in the state to register. These records have been digitized and are available at <www.digitalmaine.com/alien_reg>. The registrations are especially helpful for Canadians living in Maine in the 1940s who hadn't yet naturalized (or never did) or who entered the United States at a border-crossing that kept minimal records.

B.J. Jamieson, M.S.L.S., holds a postgraduate certificate in genealogy and is the genealogy reference specialist at the Maine State Library.

Find Your U.S. Ancestors



Each state-by-state guide includes:

- **How-to tutorials for finding records**
  Notes on how and when key documents were kept in the state, including vital records, state censuses and land records
- **Historical summaries and timelines**
  Narrative history with special emphasis on events that affected your ancestors, including year of statehood, large migrations, and major border changes
- **Links to key resources**
  Websites, books, and archives and organizations for further research

1 VIEW ONLINE FOR FREE
<www.familytreemagazine.com/explore-by-state>
New states added each month.

2 PURCHASE & DOWNLOAD PDFS
<bit.ly/family-tree-US-guides>
Purchase ($3 per guide; $49.95 for full collection) includes lifetime access to the most recent guides as they're updated in the magazine.

3 READ AS PART OF *FAMILY TREE MAGAZINE*
Each issue contains two newly updated guides on a rolling basis. Subscribers collect all 52 guides.

RESEARCH GUIDE PUBLICATION HISTORY

State/territory	Most recent issue
Alabama	Dec 2018
Alaska	Sep 2018
Arizona	Jul/Aug 2021
Arkansas	May/Jun 2022
California	Mar/Apr 2021
Colorado	May/Jun 2019
Connecticut	Nov/Dec 2021
Delaware	Jan/Feb 2018
Florida	Jan/Feb 2022
Georgia	Sep/Oct 2020
Hawaii	Jul/Aug 2017
Idaho	May/Jun 2021
Illinois	May/Jun 2020
Indiana	Sep 2018
Iowa	Jul/Aug 2022
Kansas	Sep/Oct 2021
Kentucky	Jan/Feb 2021
Louisiana	Nov/Dec 2020
Maine	Jul/Aug 2022

State/territory	Most recent issue
Maryland	Jul/Aug 2020
Massachusetts	Jul/Aug 2019
Michigan	May/Jun 2022
Minnesota	Oct/Nov 2019
Mississippi	Sep/Oct 2021
Missouri	Jan/Feb 2022
Montana	Sep 2019
Nebraska	Sep/Oct 2020
Nevada	Oct/Nov 2018
New Hampshire	Jan/Feb 2020
New Jersey	Oct/Nov 2019
New Mexico	Jul/Aug 2018
New York	Dec 2019
North Carolina	May/Jun 2021
North Dakota	Dec 2019
Ohio	Mar/Apr 2021
Oklahoma	Jul/Aug 2020
Oregon	Dec 2018
Pennsylvania	Jul/Aug 2021

State/territory	Most recent issue
Puerto Rico	Jan/Feb 2021
Rhode Island	Mar/Apr 2022
South Carolina	Mar/Apr 2019
South Dakota	Nov/Dec 2021
Tennessee	Sep 2019
Texas	Mar/Apr 2022
Utah	Jan/Feb 2018
Vermont	May/Jun 2019
Virginia	Oct/Nov 2018
Washington	Nov/Dec 2020
Washington DC	Mar/Apr 2020
West Virginia	May/Jun 2020
Wisconsin	Mar/Apr 2020
Wyoming	Jan/Feb 2020

UP NEXT*

Alaska, Indiana	Sep/Oct 2022
Nevada, Virginia	Nov/Dec 2022
Alabama, Oregon	Jan/Feb 2023

**Schedule subject to change*

SAVING FACE(BOOK)

Archive the photos, memories and genealogical details you and others have shared on social media.

by RACHEL CHRISTIAN

Social media plays a role in many people's research. Genealogists form research-related Facebook groups or Twitter chats. And professionals and experts take to social media to share advice or fun finds. (We've got a list of some of our favorites here <www.familytreemagazine.com/websites/best-social-media-for-genealogy>.)

Family history information is shared on social media in less formal ways, too. Maybe a cousin has sent you photos, records or key details about your ancestor's life via Facebook Messenger. Or perhaps you or a relative has participated in a challenge like Amy Johnson Crow's "52 Ancestors in 52 Weeks" <www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/52-ancestors-in-52-weeks>.

Given all those applications, you'll likely want to save or archive material from your or someone else's social media account. In addition to photos and posts, you might also want to "clip" comments and replies to them, where others may have shared information.

But social media platforms aren't genealogy websites, and aren't designed to be archived. Posts don't have "download" or "export" buttons, and those that you re-share to your own profile (even if you have permission to do so) can only be seen as long as the original post is available. Printing from social media is clunky at best—to say nothing of privacy and copyright issues that arise from sharing content outside of each platform. (See the sidebar on page 44 for more on this.)

As the manager of Family Tree's social media profiles, I've spent a lot of time on these platforms. In this article, I'll share four of the best ways I've found to archive content from social media. I'll focus mostly on Facebook (which currently has the widest footprint in the genealogy community), but will add notes about some of the other major platforms as I go.

1 BOOKMARKING POSTS

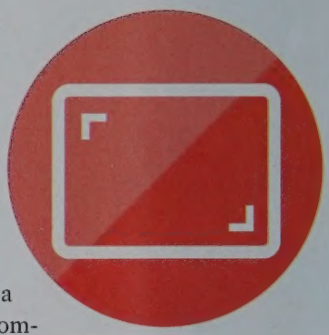
Each of the major platforms offer a convenient way to natively save posts that you can refer to later. Though this doesn't archive the post, it does help you create a running list of posts to revisit.

Facebook and Instagram even let you organized saved posts into collections.

Here's how to do this on the major platforms:

- **Facebook**: Navigate to the post you want to save. Click the three dots in the upper-right corner, then Save Post. View all your saved posts at <www.facebook.com/saved>.
- **Twitter**: From a tweet, click the share icon, then Bookmark. Access your collection of bookmarked tweets in the left-hand menu or from <www.twitter.com/i/bookmarks>. (On mobile, tap your profile picture to access the menu.)
- **Instagram**: Click the bookmark icon (which looks like a pennant and is underneath a post's image, on the right). View bookmarked posts by clicking/tapping your profile at top-right (desktop) or bottom-right (mobile), then selecting Saved. On mobile, Saved is underneath the "hamburger" menu at top-right.

Note that you'll only be able to view bookmarked posts if the original poster keeps them published and viewable to the public. If they're deleted or made private (or the posting account is deleted or suspended), you will no longer be able to see them.



2 TAKING SCREENSHOTS

Screenshots are the quickest way to capture a post in its entirety. This makes it a good—if somewhat legally complicated—method of preserving content outside of the original platform, assuming the post is still legible at that size. Screenshotting can also preserve the original poster's name and/or account handle, helpful when citing the source later.

Mac users can take a screenshot by clicking Command + Shift + 4, in that order, then click-dragging the part of your screen you want captured and clicking again. You might get a better resolution if you open the post by itself (say, in a new tab) rather than relying on a thumbnail in your timeline. Note that zooming in or out on the image won't change the size of the image itself—just make it easier for you to see in the moment. By default, the screenshot will appear on your desktop and be named *Screen Shot* along with the date and time.

PC users have multiple options for taking a screenshot, the easiest being the Print Screen key (which takes

Who Owns What on Social Media?

Before you decide *how* to share something from social, you should first question if you have the right to do so in the first place. Contrary to popular belief, not everything that is posted to social media is fair game for reuse, particularly when sharing someone's content outside of the original platform.

Here are two major factors to consider when evaluating whether you can download or repost someone's social media content:

- **Intellectual property:** Individual users retain the rights to what they post on social media. For example, Facebook's terms of service state that "You own the intellectual property rights (things like copyright or trademarks) in any such content that you create and share on Facebook."
- **Licensing agreements:** In order to host your text and photos, social media platforms generally ask that you grant them a license to reuse your content for limited purposes. Again, from Facebook's terms of service: Users grant Facebook "a non-exclusive, transferable, sub-licensable, royalty-free, and worldwide license to host, use, distribute…your content (consistent with your privacy and application settings)."

In layman's terms: Users still "own" (i.e., maintain the copyright to) their posts, and the social media platforms are granted only limited rights to host and distribute them. Sunny Jane Morton breaks down how copyright law impacts your research at the major genealogy websites here <www.familytreemagazine.com/websites/understanding-website-copyright-laws>.

You'll notice that doesn't address how *other users* may or may not use posts. As such, it's always best practice to get permission from the original poster before you copy and reuse content elsewhere, particularly if you plan to distribute it to other people.

This is even true for materials considered in the public domain, such as facts, certain government documents, and works out of copyright or not governed by intellectual property laws. For these, you should either download the public-domain material from the original source yourself, or ask the original poster for permission to save the post.

a screenshot of your entire screen). The image will be copied to your clipboard and you will need to open a program, such as Microsoft Word, to paste it in. Alternatively, press the Windows and Print Screen buttons at the same time to save the screenshot to your Pictures > Screenshots folder.

Taking screenshots on a mobile device is possible—look up instructions for how to do so on your device. But we don't recommend it, since mobile screenshots are smaller and not as easy to view or print. You'll want to switch to a desktop to save posts for archival purposes.

3 PRINTING POSTS

Alas, there is no easy way to print social media posts. However, if you want to store a post in your physical genealogy files, here are a few steps you can take:

Printing a Webpage

To print a post from social media, open the post by itself in a new tab. From there click Control + P (PC) or Command + P (Mac) to open your print dialog box. Note the formatting might be strange (for example, cutting off part of an image). Changing the orientation of the page from the default portrait to landscape might help.

Keep in mind that this option will print the screen as it currently appears—menus, comments, and all. You might have to play around a bit to view the content you want. For example, if the comment you want to print from a Facebook post isn't visible, change "Most Recent" to "All Comments" to display them all.

Saving and Printing as PDFs

Another option is to save the webpage as a PDF, which you can download to your desktop for offline viewing. PDFs are also easy to read, share and print. Follow the same steps for printing a webpage. But instead of printing the page right away, look for a prompt in the print preview box to save as PDF.

This method certainly isn't foolproof. The post's format might change in unappealing ways, cutting off key information to accommodate page breaks.

tip

Images uploaded to social media are typically compressed, making their file sizes smaller and easier to load. Avoid downloading archival photos from social media, as they'll have much lower resolution than the originals (and lack valuable metadata). Contact the poster to get uncompressed copies of photos you want to save.

Citing Social Media Posts

On her website, Evidence Explained <www.evidenceexplained.com/quicktips/citing-facebook-really>, citation guru Elizabeth Shown Mills states that social media can be considered a publication for the purposes of source citation, not all that different from a book. She offers the a template like this for social media posts:

"Personal Name," *Name of Platform* (URL : access date), personal profile.

4 TRANSCRIBING TEXT

If all else fails, you could transcribe the information you want to save into your own document. There are several benefits to this method, time-consuming as it may be. For starters, you can make the information more uniform, organized, and searchable than if you had save the post as a PDF or taken a screenshot. Transcriptions are also more stable than relying on bookmarking posts. Just remember to include information about the poster.

You obviously can't transcribe images. But you could screenshot images from a post or save them as files from your browser, then store them alongside transcribed text.

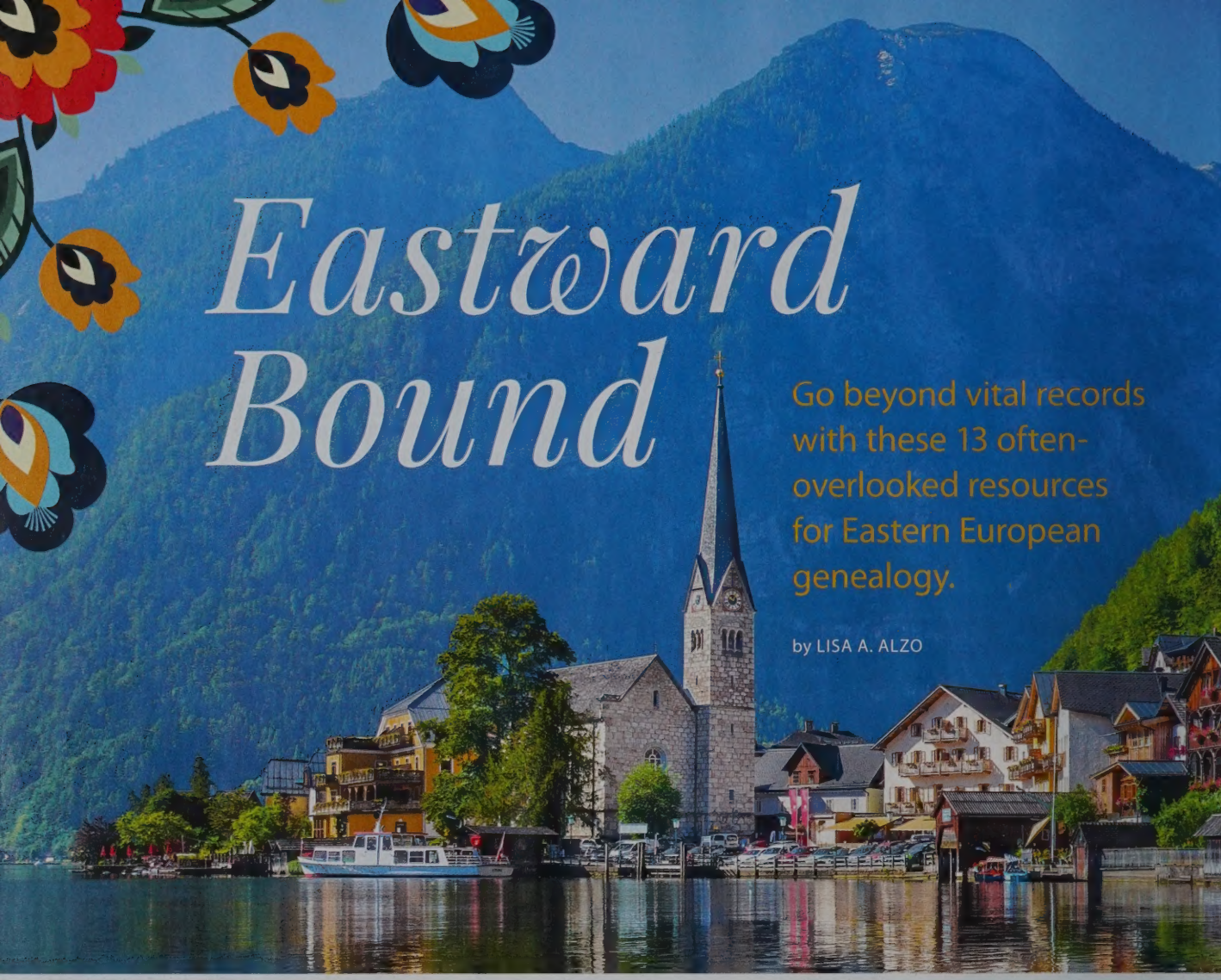
No matter which way you choose to archive social media posts, much of the age-old documenting and archiving wisdom still rings true: Always ask for permission, be sure to cite your sources, and, of course, get as close to the original material as you can! ●

Rachel Christian is the New Media Editor for *Family Tree Magazine*.

Eastward Bound

Go beyond vital records with these 13 often-overlooked resources for Eastern European genealogy.

by LISA A. ALZO



The lakeside village of Hallstatt, Austria

As in many places, vital records form the backbone of genealogy research in Eastern Europe. Once you've got an immigrant ancestor's original name and place of origin, your next step is to check for births, marriages and deaths in church and civil registration records.

But your search should not end there, especially if these records are missing or incomplete. Many archives, libraries and volunteer organizations have other genealogically rich documents—some even digitized and available online—to help fill in the gaps in your family tree. Here are 13 overlooked resources you might be missing.

Since records (including those discussed here) are typically organized by location, you'll need to know the county or province and administrative district. Be sure to check all parishes and archives, as well as the local registrar or mayor's office in the ancestral town or village.

For the purposes of this article, we'll define Eastern Europe as Belarus, Bulgaria, Czechia, Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia and Ukraine. Some of the resources listed here can also help with research in other parts of the former Austro-Hungarian and German Empires.

1 CENSUSES

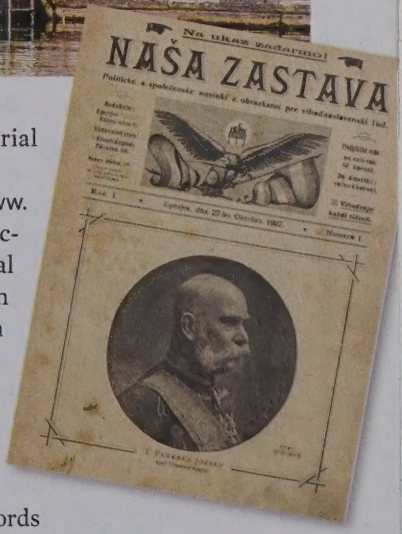
In Eastern Europe, censuses were primarily taken for tax and military-conscription purposes. When present, they can reveal name, rough place of residence, and possibly age and income.

However, your search will be "hit or miss" depending on what region you're researching in. Because of shifting borders, record destruction, and the general chaos of war, census records may have vanished or been destroyed. Use the FamilySearch Wiki to learn what censuses survive for your ancestor's country <www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Browse_by_Country>. Select a country, then find the link for Census under Record Types.

2 CEMETERIES AND MEMORIALS

Most genealogists are already familiar with Find a Grave <www.findagrave.com> and BillionGraves <www.billiongraves.com>, which can help you locate and view photos of graves worldwide. But other websites can help you specifically with Eastern European ancestors:

- JewishGen <www.jewishgen.org/databases> hosts a variety of databases that can help you find ancestral towns and graves: the Online Worldwide Burial Registry (JOWBR), the Holocaust Database, and the Memorial Plaques Database. (The site also has useful resources for learning about ancestral towns, whether or not your ancestor was Jewish.)
- The site Finding Lost Russian and Ukrainian Family includes a list of free cemetery databases <www.lostrussianfamily.wordpress.com/cemetery-database> that include residents of the former USSR. Listings cover those who emigrated to other countries as well as Russian Imperial and Soviet armies.
- Austria-based GenTeam <www.genteam.at> has a searchable collection of more than 12,000 memorial cards of soldiers who died in both World Wars, many from Eastern Europe. You will need to register for an account to access the databases.


NAŠA ZASTAVA

A sample page from Slovak newspaper *Naša Zastava*, which depicts Austrian Emperor Franz Joseph I

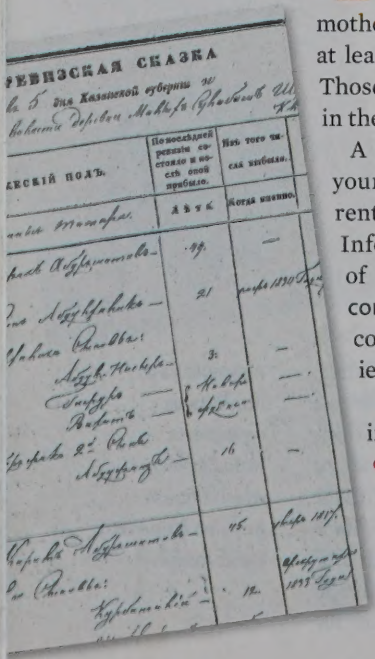
3 COURT RECORDS

Depending on time period, you may find local civil court records pertaining to contracts, marriages, inheritance, and property disputes. These can reveal names; birth, marriage and death information; relationships; place of residence; and sometimes place of origin. Find them in local city and state archives. Or go to FamilySearch and browse the Historical Records Collections <www.familysearch.org/search/collection/list>. Select Continental Europe as Place, then (under Record Type) filter for

COURTESY SLOVAKIANA <WWW.SLOVAKIANA.SK>

Above: St. Basil's Cathedral in Moscow

Below: Russian tax list



Probate & Court. At the time of writing, the site includes select records for Austria, the Czech Republic and parts of Germany.

4 DIRECTORIES

Because Eastern European families tended to be large, your immigrant grandmother or great-grandfather likely left behind at least a sibling or two when they emigrated. Those siblings' descendants could help you fill in the blanks in your family tree.

A foreign telephone directory is probably your best tool for trying to find those currently living family members. Start with Infobel <www.infobel.com> or Phonebook of the World <www.phonebookoftheworld.com>, or search for print telephone books covering your ancestral region. (Most libraries have them.)

Other, more comprehensive options include:

- The Library of Congress <www.loc.gov/rr/european/tel.html> has some indexes and digitized versions of European address/telephone directories.
- Genealogy Indexer <www.genealogyindexer.org> hosts 1.9 million digitized pages from 3,400-plus historical directories (mostly Central and Eastern European) with business, address and telephone information.
- Among its many resources for Eastern European research, PolishRoots <www.polishroots.org> has information on Polish city directories (click Geography & Maps). Because of language or formatting issues, you may need to consult a native-language speaker for assistance understanding them.

Central and Eastern European communities also commonly created other directories called schematisms (from the term "schematics," referring to a schema or diagram). You will see them referred to as *Schematismus* in Latin; *Šematism* in Latinized Ruthenian from Cyrillic; and *Szematyzm* in Polish. Look for schematisms for diocese and other religious organizations (which often detail Roman and Greek Catholic parishes) and for government bodies (which discuss local tax or judicial officials, military outposts, and personnel).

5 EMIGRATION DOCUMENTS/PASSPORTS

Most genealogists look for passenger lists at the point of arrival. But in some instances, records might instead document *departures from* key European ports in Germany, England and others. Emigration lists, permissions to emigrate, and records of passports may reside in state or regional archives and include details such as the name, age, occupation, destination, and place of origin or birthplace of the emigrant.

The Slovak Genealogy Research Strategies website <www.iabsi.com/gen/public/documents.htm> has examples from Austria, Hungary and the former Czechoslovakia. "Mákvirágok," an account on the photo-sharing site Flickr, has curated a collection of passports, photos, and other documents related to immigrant lives circa 1914 to 1925 <www.flickr.com/photos/fekete-feher/albums>.

tip

Privacy laws may restrict your access to the records mentioned here. Study local laws or consult with an expert to determine what you'll be able to obtain.

Ancestry.com has indexes to such passenger lists from the port of Hamburg, Germany <www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1166>, where many European emigrants departed for the United States. Unfortunately, most passenger lists from another key port, Bremen, were either lost or destroyed. Learn about those that survived at <www.passengerlists.de>.

The Family History Library <www.familysearch.org/library/books> has books of emigrants from various areas of European countries, usually sorted by country/province/region. Check any listings at WorldCat <www.worldcat.org>, where you may find a library that offers interlibrary loan to an institution near you.

6 LAND RECORDS

While often difficult to track down, land records can go back further in time than vital records, helping you fill in generational gaps. They can also provide names of heirs, spouses, relatives and neighbors, as well as occupation and place of residence.

Various archives might hold land records today—national or regional archives, provincial archives, or town archives. Since they were created at the local level, land records weren't kept consistently from community to community. Check with a local archivist to ensure you're looking in the correct places.

A related set of documents, cadastral maps, were created to document the economic potential of manors. These maps of manors depicted the actual configuration of farms, complete with bodies of water, roads, etc. (often with detailed descriptions). Arcanum Maps <maps.arcanum.com/en> has digitized cadastral maps, military surveys, and other maps of cities and countries. The David Rumsey Map Collection <www.davidrumsey.com> has over 115,000 map images from around the world; sort by location, date, map type, or creator. (See page 64 for a tutorial.)

Likewise, tax lists—though more difficult to access than land records or cadastral maps—can offer a glimpse into an ancestor's financial and social status. Lists contain personal data on household members, and often exist for Polish communities, in particular. The Austrian Empire compiled tax records (*berní rula*) as early as 1653, with coverage continuing through the 18th century.

7 MILITARY RECORDS

In the Austrian, German, and Russian Empires, military service was mandatory for males of eligible age. In fact, conscription was often a major factor that pushed men to emigrate. That service left behind valuable documents about your male ancestors.

First, you will need to understand how conscription worked in the region your ancestor lived. Here's some basic information about conscription in the three most prominent historical nation-states in Eastern Europe:

- Austro-Hungarian Empire: Men were eligible to be drafted at the age of 20, but could volunteer as young as 17 <www.iabsi.com/gen/public/ahm.html>.

FamilySearch First

Your first stop in Eastern European research should be the free FamilySearch <www.familysearch.org>, which offers a number of options to search for records.

According to Greg Nelson (who heads the site's content strategy for East Europe), FamilySearch has been capturing images of genealogical interest in Eastern Europe since the 1960s, before the Iron Curtain came down. The first cameras were set up at the National Archives of Hungary to capture civil registration and church records. Nelson recapped FamilySearch's recent work in the region at a RootsTech 2022 presentation <www.familysearch.org/rootstech/session/preserving-the-records-of-east-europe-familysearch-efforts-2010-2021>.

In addition to records, key features of FamilySearch include:

Images <www.familysearch.org/records/images>: Here, explore historical images not yet indexed (i.e., made searchable by name) for a locality. You can choose from selections of names from different time periods.

Places <www.familysearch.org/research/places>: This landing page includes a map that shows a location along with its variant spellings. Search results will include all the database entries associated with that name and the dates any other names for that place were used.

Research Wiki <www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main_Page>: View expert-written articles for individual countries or topics. From the main page, click the map of Europe or "List of All Localities" to navigate to your country of choice. Use the search box to type in the name of a country or topic. Either will take you to a page that includes basic information and links to other additional pages.

For more tips on using FamilySearch, see *Family Tree Magazine*'s article <www.familytreemagazine.com/websites/familysearch/familysearch-guide>.

- The various German states that eventually made up the German Empire had their own conscription laws. See <www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Germany_Military_Records#Historical_Background> for a primer.
- In the Russian Empire, all 21-year-old males were subject to military service beginning in 1874 (although drafting of selected groups began earlier) <www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Russia_Military_Records>.

To search surviving records, you'll need to determine the regiment or military unit your ancestor served in. (Finding this information is not always an easy task). The types of records available—muster rolls, personnel sheets, military citations—vary by regiment and period. If successful, you could find the draftee's birth date, religion, marital status, parents' names, and more.

8 NEWSPAPERS AND JOURNALS

Foreign-language newspapers may contain obituaries, funeral notices, or social history background. Wikipedia has a long list of online newspaper archives by country <en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:List_of_online_newspaper_archives>, and you can search Google Books <books.google.com> or the Internet Archive <www.archive.org> for relevant publications or collections. For example, search Google with related terms in each language: *Towarzystwo naukowe* ("scientific society" in Polish), *Genealogická Společnost* ("genealogical society" in Czech), or *Slovenske ucene tovarisstvo* ("*Slovak Apprenticeship*" in Slovak).

Scholarly organizations or societies (both in the United States and the home country) document the history of their region and the people who lived there, and many issue their own journals. They're typically written in the region's native language and may only exist in libraries overseas. Check the Periodical Source Index available on the Allen County Public Library website <www.genealogycenter.info/persi>; click Other Countries for a Location search. The Library of Congress' Chronicling America database has a US Newspaper Directory <chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/search/titles> that lists stateside newspapers published throughout history.

tip

Need help finding archives by country? Check the directory at Archives Portal Europe <www.archivesportaleurope.net>.

9 NOBILITY AND SEIGNORIAL RECORDS

If you think you can prove a connection to a line of nobility, records documenting noble families may prove useful. Their contents can contain pedigrees, linkage information, personal family documents and correspondence, wills and testaments, estate records, and investigations into proof of nobility.

You can generally find such records in district or state/regional archives. Only authorized individuals may be allowed to search the records (possibly only in person), and you may also need to prove your relationship to the person in order to access documents.

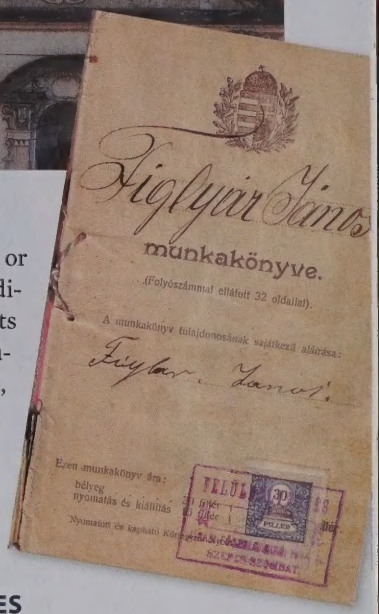
Your ancestors who were among the nobility may also be in seignorial records, civil records created within a manor. Aristocrats created such records to document the life events of their lands' inhabitants and to help administer their

Work the Web

Besides FamilySearch, you can use free sites such as Cyndi's List <www.cyndislist.com/eastern-europe> or the Foundation of East European Family History Studies <www.feefhs.org> to find more online resources.

Do a deep dive in subscription databases to see collections beyond those shown on the site's main page:

- **Ancestry.com** <www.ancestry.com> (about $399 per year for a world subscription, or free via a subscribing library): From the Card Catalog (Search > Card Catalog), filter collections by Location to Europe, then your country of interest.
- **Findmypast** <www.findmypast.com> (about $180 per year, or pay-as-you-go credits): Though focused on British and Irish records, Findmypast does have some limited collections from other parts of the world, including Eastern Europe. Click Search > All Record Sets, then with World selected, type in a country or city.
- **MyHeritage** <www.myheritage.com> (about $189 per year for a world subscription): Go to the catalog (Research > Collection Catalog) and filter by location. Click Refine Further to narrow down to a specific country.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Figlyár János

manors. Note that, as with other secondhand records and published genealogies, nobility records are only as accurate as the information used to create them.

10 OCCUPATIONAL RECORDS

Occupational records may include guild records or other types of official paperwork. (Guilds were associations of professionals in a certain trade, such as metalworking or shoemaking.) Industry or trade directories may also be available online, or offline at libraries or local offices. GenTeam has an 1876 directory of all mills and mill-owners in Austria and a database of medical doctors from Vienna. Also check family papers for a worker passbook or work logbook.

11 LOCAL RECORDS, PHOTOGRAPHS AND POSTCARDS

Collections housed in local libraries can contain "one-of-a-kind" materials: books, documents, photographs, postcards, compiled genealogies, local histories, and other ephemera. Some collections also include local government documents, such as school censuses or voting records.

Search Ancestry.com's Card Catalog <www.ancestry.com/search/collections/catalog> for relevant collections. (See the Work the Web sidebar.) Don't rule out eBay <www.ebay.com>—there's even a genealogy category to help narrow your searches, under Others > Everything Else.

12 SCHOOL RECORDS

Records of school attendance or apprenticeship can provide additional clues about your ancestor. Documents can include school and university matriculation records, which usually provide name, age and/or birthdate, place of residence, names of the father or other relatives, and place of origin. Find them in local city and state archives. Some online collections are available at FamilySearch.

13 TOWN OR VILLAGE HISTORIES

Individual towns or villages may also have published histories. These sources can come in book form, or may appear on town or village websites. In addition to offering a social history of the town and its inhabitants, these publications might also mention your ancestor by name. For example, my maternal grandfather's family is mentioned in a book, *Dejiny Osturne*, about Osturňa, Slovakia.

Don't forget to search social media sites for your ancestral town. For example, a Facebook <www.facebook.com> group about that town of Osturňa helped me connect with a cousin. One resident shared a tour of the houses on YouTube <www.youtube.com/watch?v=rczcJCIZb5k>.

Top: Old Town in Prague

Center: The first page of a worker's pass for Janos Figlyar

Contributing Editor **Lisa A. Alzo** is the author of *The Family Tree Polish, Czech, and Slovak Genealogy Guide* (Family Tree Books). She blogs about her Slovak ancestors at <www.theaccidentalgenealogist.com>.

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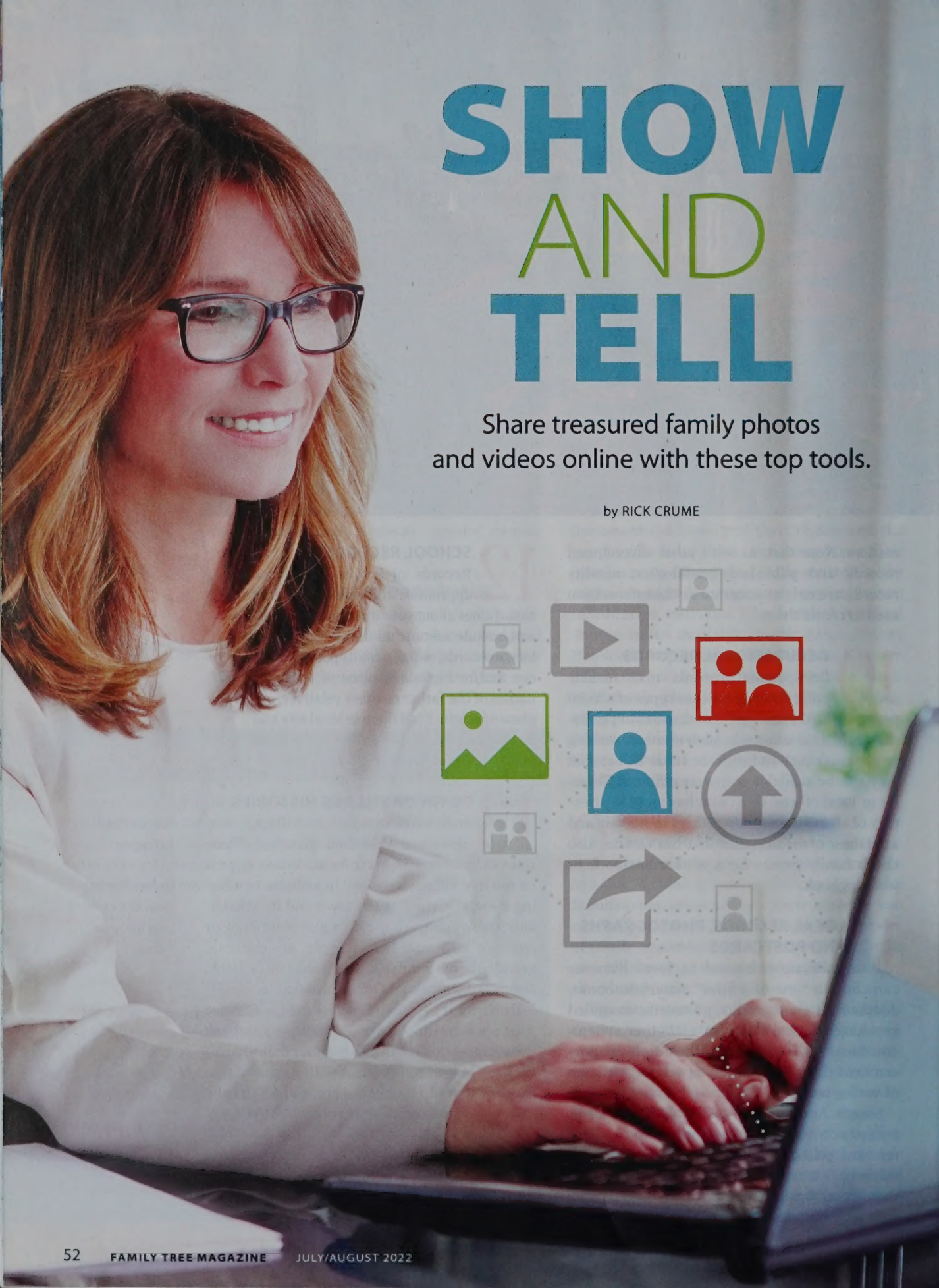
SHOW AND TELL

Share treasured family photos and videos online with these top tools.

by RICK CRUME



As a genealogist, you've probably collected many family photos. You may even have put some of them on the big genealogy websites and linked them to personal profiles in your family tree. Those sites let you share individual pictures and albums. And now, you can also create shareable stories that combine photos and narration.

Sharing photos and videos online will help you preserve your family stories, as well as draw relatives into your research. Here's a look at where and how to share these important mementos online, first at the major genealogy websites, then through other services.

ANCESTRY.COM

You don't need a paid membership to create an Ancestry Member Tree <www.ancestry.com/family-tree> and upload photos and records to it. Just register for a free account to access your tree via the website or mobile app. (You'll need a paid plan to access historical records and research others' family trees, however.)

Ancestry.com supports photos and text documents up to 15MB in size. (While the site references video files in some places, you can't actually upload videos to Ancestry.com as of this writing. You can only add links to videos hosted on other websites.) To upload photos, click on Trees in the main menu and select one of your Member Trees. Then click on the down arrow beside the tree's name and select Media Gallery. Click on Add Media > Upload Photos. To upload a photo directly to someone in your tree, click on a name in your tree and then on Profile > Gallery > Add Media > Upload Photos.

To link a photo in your media gallery to someone in your tree, click on the image and, under In This Tree, click "Attach to Another Person." Here, you'll also be able to see what (if any) other users' trees have added the photo. Ancestry.com doesn't allow for face-tagging, so you'll want to include details about the subject in the Description field or under Public Comments.

Compared to the other big genealogy sites, Ancestry.com offers fewer options for sharing your media files, as it does not allow you to create and share albums/collections. To share a single photo in your Member Tree, go to the person's profile and click Gallery. Then click on the picture, and you'll see icons at the upper right to share the image via email, Facebook or Twitter.

Share the whole Member Tree with your relatives (Trees > Create & Manage Trees), and they'll be able to view your entire tree and all your media files, even without a paid Ancestry membership. But that's impractical if you only want to share a few photos.

Ancestry Stories, a feature announced in March, lets you combine family photos and text to create a short presentation about an ancestor or a relative. From the free mobile app, make your preferred

Learn about more web tools for sharing your research <www.familytreemagazine.com/storytelling/top-tech-tools-sharing-family-history>.

SEPY/ADOBE STOCK; JULIE BARNETT

Member Tree active and tap Discover, then Add Story. Follow the steps to select a person and add photos, events, records and descriptions that will comprise up to 12 slides. You can save the slideshow to a person's profile in your Member Tree, then send a link to relatives. (They'll also need to view it within the Ancestry.com app.)

Stories are available in the Ancestry.com iOS and Android mobile apps. Thanks to a new-in-2022 partnership with Photomyne <www.photomyne.com> (see page 6), the Ancestry.com mobile app also now boasts bulk-scan and photo-enhancement features.

FAMILYSEARCH

The FamilySearch Family Tree <www.familysearch.org/tree>, arguably the centerpiece of the free FamilySearch website, is a collaborative family tree with information on more than 1.38 billion people. Submit photos, records, text stories, and audio recordings to FamilySearch Memories <www.familysearch.org/memories>, and you can link them to profiles in the Family Tree. Files must be 15MB or smaller.

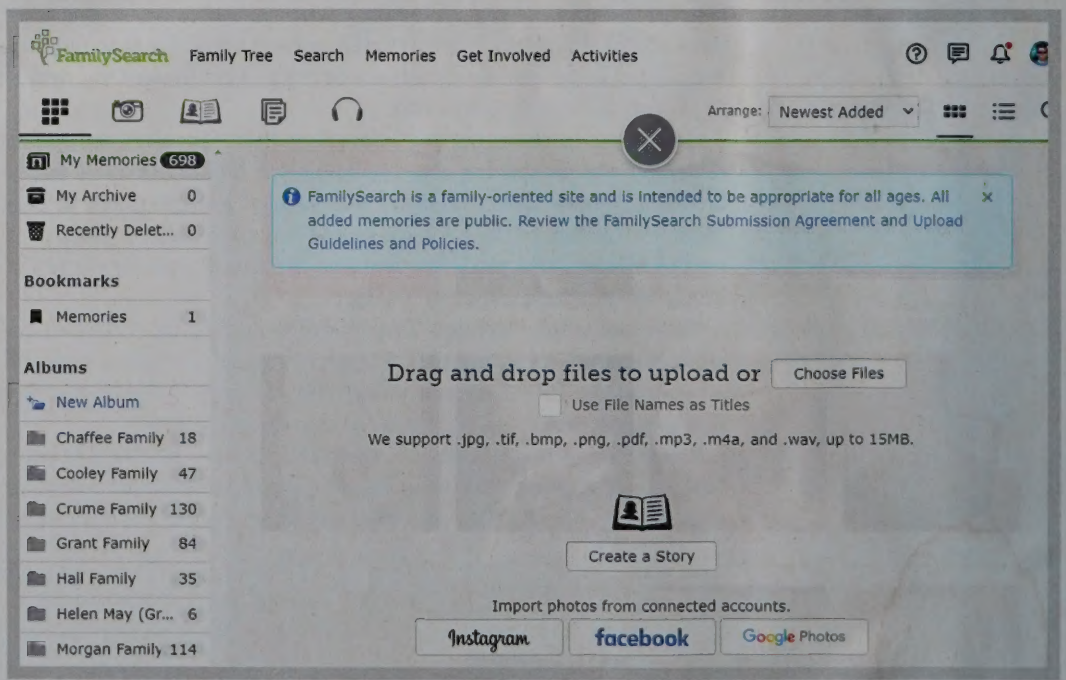
Select Memories > Gallery and click on the green plus sign to upload an image, a sound file or a PDF file to your gallery. You can also upload memories from the FamilySearch Memories mobile app or the FamilySearch Tree app. (Both are free and available for iOS and Android.)

Click on an item in your gallery, and you can add details about it, including the date and place and a description. Tag faces in a picture to link the item to profiles in the Family Tree. The same Memory can be linked to multiple profiles.

You might even link an item to people you're not related to. For example, I can link a picture of my dad's high school graduating class not only to his profile, but to those of his classmates, too. Other people might discover their ancestors in the pictures and records you submit.

You can organize the Memories in your gallery into albums. I created eight albums, one for each of my great-grandparents and their relatives. Click New Album and give it a name. Then, from your Gallery page, click in the upper right-hand corner of the items you'd like to add to the album. Once you've selected all the Memories you want, select Actions > Add to Album and choose an album. You can also add individual Memories to albums from their respective pages, including photos submitted by other users.

Would you like to share a few pictures pertaining to a person, family or theme? Click on the green plus sign and select Create a Story to



The Memories Gallery page at FamilySearch

AT A GLANCE: Photo-Sharing at the Big Websites

	Cost	Single File Size Limit	Support for Video Files?	Face-Tagging?	Create Albums?
Ancestry.com	free	15MB	no	no	no
FamilySearch	free	15MB	no	yes	yes
MyHeritage	free up to 500MB	50MB	yes	yes	yes

combine text and up to 10 images into a story.

FamilySearch makes it easy to share one or more of your Memories. Go to an individual Memory, an album or a story and click on Share to post it to social media, attach it to an email message, or copy a link to it.

I find it especially useful to share links to my albums. The large thumbnails and captions make it easy to browse all my key photos for one family branch. You can see my Olmsted family album at <bit.ly/3CVFRDy>.

MYHERITAGE

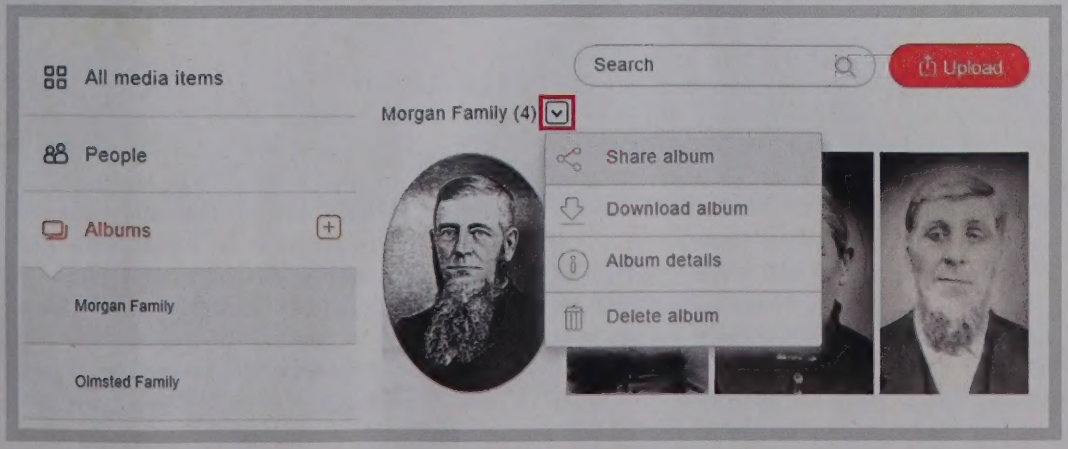
You can create a family site with up to 250 people and 500MB of photos and scanned documents on MyHeritage <www.myheritage.com> for free. A larger tree, more storage space, and access to historical records and family trees require a paid subscription.

Unlike Ancestry.com and FamilySearch, MyHeritage lets you upload videos. However, keep in mind that video files are typically large and could quickly take up your 500MB of free storage space.

To add photos or videos to MyHeritage, click on Photos > My Photos > Upload. The maximum size for a single file is 50MB. If your file is larger, you could use photo-editing software to convert it to a different file type, or use video-editing software to split a video file.

Click on Photos > My Photos to view all your media items. Click an image to open its detail page, where you can add a date, place, keywords (for example, *tintype* or *school*), notes or comments. You can also take advantage of MyHeritage's various photo-editing tools, including In Color (colorization), color-correction, and repair/enhancements. (Note that free users can only edit up to 10 photos in this way.)

To tag a person, click the tag icon above the image, or select one of the suggested faces beneath it. Use the icons at the upper left to repair scratches, bring blurry faces into focus, colorize the image and animate the faces. The photo repair icon looks like a bandage and will



Photos view at MyHeritage, with Albums selected

Carry over key information about family photos using metadata. Rick Crume has a guide <www.familytreemagazine.com/organization/using-and-transferring-metadata-in-digital-photos>.

appear if MyHeritage detects damage in the photo. Otherwise, you can click on the three dots to access it.

To share an image, click to show the "Link to this photo" on the right and copy the link. If you've used a photo tool on the image, there will also be a link above the photo to share it via Facebook or Twitter or to copy the link.

To create a photo album, click on Albums, then the small orange + icon. Enter a title and description and uncheck "Public Album" if you want it to be private. To add photos to an album, go back to the Photos page and select photos by clicking on the small circle at the upper-right of each image. Then click on the three dots in the orange bar at the top and select "Add to Album."

To share an album, select it from the Albums toolbar, click on the down arrow to the right of the album title above the images, and select "Share Album." Then copy the URL, which you can paste in an email or social networking site.

An innovative new feature called MyHeritage LiveStory (Photos > LiveStory; see page 7) assembles your photos into a video narrated by an animated portrait of a deceased ancestor, who seemingly tells his or her life story. It draws on life events and photos in your family tree, but you can edit the narrative, add photos and customize the voice. You can create several LiveStories for free, and download or share them.

OTHER PHOTO-SHARING OPTIONS

Though you can't link your photos to family trees using them, mainstream photo-sharing sites offer many tools for editing, organizing and sharing your photos and videos. Here are some highlights.

Amazon Photos

<www.amazon.com/Amazon-Photos>

Free users get a total of 5GB to store photos and videos, while Amazon Prime subscribers get unlimited, full-resolution photo storage and 5GB for video storage. (Non-Prime members can upgrade to more storage space for a small monthly fee.) Invite up to five friends or family members to your "Family Vault" to view and share photos and videos. You can create and share albums, too.

Apple iCloud Photos

<www.icloud.com/photos>

Enable the service on your iOS device or Mac, and your photos and videos automatically upload to iCloud. You get 5GB for free, and you can pay $1.99 per month for more space. Create albums and share photos and videos via the Photos app or a unique Public Website.

Facebook

<www.facebook.com>

Upload your photos and videos, and create albums. Images get compressed, but Facebook's services are free. A lot of your friends and relatives are probably already on Facebook, so it's a good way to share photos and videos with them.

Flickr

<www.flickr.com>

Upload up to 1,000 photos with a free account. A paid Pro account has no limits on photos, and you can store videos up to 10 minutes in length. Collaborate with others on organizing your photos by giving your friends and family permission to add comments, notes and tags.

Google Photos

<photos.google.com>

Photos and videos count toward the 15GB of free storage included in a free Google Drive <drive.google.com> account. Google Photos uses artificial intelligence to categorize your photos and recognize faces. Create albums to share, either publicly or only with family and friends.

Photobucket

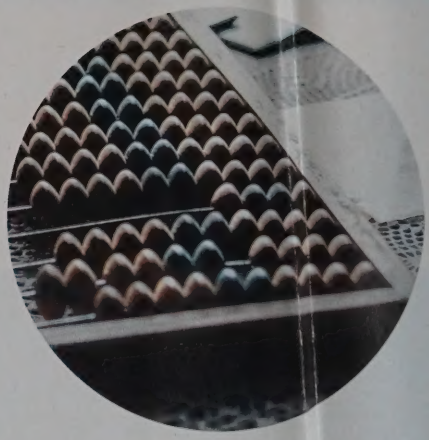
<www.photobucket.com>

A free account supports up to 250 images or 2.5GB of storage, whichever comes first. You can unlock additional storage and other features (like the ability to host images on third-party sites) with paid subscription plans. Tag and organize photos into albums and stories. ●

Contributing Editor **Rick Crume** specializes in online research, genealogy software, DNA testing and British genealogy.

STUDY THE LAWS IN EFFECT DURING YOUR ANCESTORS' TIME, as well as those that affect record access now. Laws governing vital registration, naturalization, taxes (see page 58), and real estate determined what records were created for your ancestors (and what was included in them) <www.familytreemagazine.com/records/courthouse/how-to-research-old-laws>. And knowing if and how you can get copies of records or visit cemeteries on private land (see page 68) will save you time and effort. ●

Tax Records



It's often a pain to file your individual taxes with the government (unless you end up with a refund!). But the fact that various levels of government in the United States have kept records of our taxes turns pain into pleasure for genealogists: Tax records let you anchor your ancestors in a particular place and discover in detail their economic situations over time.

Tax lists are especially welcome as a replacement for records in "burned counties" and areas that have suffered census losses. Even when census records are complete, you often can use tax records to fill the decade between enumerations, especially for rural ancestors who may not appear in city directories.

While the current version of the federal income tax (as well as state income levies, most of them introduced in the second half of the 20th century) is off-limits due to privacy, you'll see that's generally not the case with such taxes historically. Even the first federal personal income tax, used to pay for the Civil War in the 1860s, is publicly available.

Here's how you can make tax records pay off for your genealogy research.

TYPES OF TAX RECORDS

One of the most widespread taxes in Colonial times was a flat assessment for each adult male in a household. This was variously called a poll, tithable or head tax. The age at which one was considered a taxable adult varied with the jurisdiction, and older men often could "age out" of the tax, usually between 50 and 60. Exceptions were made in some areas for veterans, ministers and those deemed "paupers" (that is, too poor to pay the tax).

Another typical early tax was on the value of land, because real estate ("real property") was the source of most wealth. This tax, importantly, was sometimes levied not on the actual owner of the real property, but upon the person who was using it. For example, a farmer renting a piece of land would be responsible for paying the tax because he, as the tenant, was reaping the profits from the use of that land.

Certain classes of personal property also were valued and subjected to taxes. The types of property differed by area, but generally included farm animals and carriages—as well as (before 1865) enslaved persons. On some tax returns, landless men whose personal property was of high enough value to owe tax are identified on separate lists of "inmates," which in this context means tenants or renters (and not someone who was in legal trouble or incarcerated).

In parts of Colonial America, levies called quitrents were a remnant of feudal times when individuals owed taxes or service to their lords. The Mid-Atlantic and Southern colonies often had this sort of annual tax on landowners that went to the proprietor or the English crown, depending on the area. (Quitrent ended in most places with American independence.) Town founders also might place quitrents upon town lots as a sort of early homeowners' association fee to fund common projects. As these areas incorporated as governments, those quitrents morphed into taxes.

As the nation acquired a degree of financial sophistication in the mid-19th century, some states expanded the reach of their personal property taxes to include the value of investments such as stocks, bonds and money lent out at interest. In some cases, these levies would exempt, for example, values in corporations or banks headquartered within the taxpayer's home state.

Colonial-era tax lists often are entirely handwritten. They're usually arranged in a columnar format, but sometimes the headings for those columns are obscure. Check the first page of the list for headings that may describe what's listed in the columns. You'll see forms with preprinted headings starting generally in the 19th century.

Until the 20th century, the federal government generated few tax reports that had genealogically useful information. In its early days, the United States generated most of its revenue from tariffs on imported goods. Any "direct taxes" levied by the federal government were found unlawful by the Supreme Court in 1895. (Note to any would-be tax protesters out there: The 16th Amendment in 1913 superseded this decision.) We'll discuss the few distinct periods of time during which taxes with individual data were levied later.

For an excellent guide to the history behind taxes in the United States, check out *The Genealogist's Guide to Researching Tax Records* by Carol Cook Darrow and Susan Winchester (Heritage Books). *The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy*, edited by Loretto Dennis Szucs and Sandra Hargreaves Luebking (Ancestry Publishing), has a short section on US taxes, nestled in the chapter on land records.

FINDING TAX LISTS

While the specifics vary from state to state (and even from one county or local unit to another), what follows are some

rules of thumb for getting the most information from the various levels of government.

Local (cities, boroughs, towns and townships): Most New England states keep their tax records by town unit. In other states that had townships, the lists may be labeled with those municipal names but most likely were kept on the county level. Record retention (including microfilming and digitization) of these local tax lists is generally the lowest of any government level.

County: Almost all these records—be they head taxes, or real or personal property levies—were originally in the custody of a county courthouse office. Some are still there, in their dusty ledger books. Others have been transferred to a countywide archive, a state repository or a county historical or genealogical society.

State: Before the 20th century, most states collected taxes similar in form to those on the county level and utilized the county structures for collection of statewide taxes. In many cases, one tax collector gathered the head and property taxes and split them between the levels of government. See *Red Book: American State, County, and Town Sources* edited by Alice Eichholz (Ancestry Publishing) for a summary of tax records for each US state, and consult the Council of State Archivists' directory <www.statearchivists.org/about/state-archives/state-archives-directory>.

Federal: Although federal taxes on individuals were on-again, off-again before the income tax began in 1913, surviving records of them can be fascinating. These pre-1913 taxes were conducted to fund war efforts, first in the 1798 "Window Tax" or "Glass Tax" (so named because home valuations were based, in part, on the number of windows) that funded in anticipation of the Quasi-War with France. This tax created a listing of properties (acreages, construction material of homes and barns, structure sizes, etc.) that is unmatched for detail in this time period, though records for many states don't survive. A similar direct tax was levied in the 1810s to fund the War of 1812, but states had the option to pay their residents' share of the tax without assessing them (and, thus, without creating records). The Civil War led to another direct tax in 1861 on Union-held lands (including rebellious Confederate states as they came under Union control) as well as the nation's first income tax in 1862. Read *Federal Taxation in America: A History* by W. Elliot Brownlee (Cambridge University Press) for more.

Probably the most fertile sources of historical tax lists are state archives. In many cases, these archives also have become the custodians of whatever county or local tax lists have been retained. It's essential, however, to also check with lower governmental levels; in some areas, *they* may be the only source of extant tax lists.

Be aware that, in some cases, the local or county jurisdictions were responsible for collecting state taxes, then reporting that information to the state government. That means you can look for "origination" copies of tax lists on the lower level and "destination" lists on the state level.

Ancestry.com has more than 90 collections dealing with US taxes, housed in its "Court, Land, Wills & Financial category <www.ancestry.com/search/collections/catalog/?category=36>. Many were created in partnership with state archives around the country and with NARA, the custodian of federal records.

Another NARA collection compiles income tax records from the Civil War era, available through the free website FamilySearch <www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2075263>.

FamilySearch also has digitized tax records for individual states, but its traditional microfilming practices have placed tax records at a lower priority than other record sets that tend to have more genealogical value (such as vital records). Many of the tax records FamilySearch has sought to microfilm are those needed to substitute for missing or destroyed federal census records, according to David Dilts, a senior research specialist at the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City, part of FamilySearch.

Search the FamilySearch catalog <www.familysearch.org/search/catalog> by county or town with Online selected under Availability, then look for a taxation heading. (Though all of the FHL's microfilm has now been scanned, not all has yet been indexed. And some collections are viewable only at the FHL or at certain in-person locations.)

The FHL's book collection (both at the library and digitized <www.familysearch.org/library/books>) contains thousands of abstracted and indexed tax lists from across

Fast Facts

Coverage: Varies by location, with earliest in Colonial times. Regular federal tax records begin in the 20th century, but are largely restricted by privacy laws

Jurisdiction where kept: Created variously by the town/city, county, state and federal governments, then held at that jurisdiction level. State archives may have copies of city or county records.

Key details: Names of individual taxpayers, descriptions of land being taxed, information about other personal property

Alternates and substitutes: City and county directories, federal and state censuses, land records, wills and probate records, voting lists

At a Glance: Tax List

1 Dist No 1 Names of Persons Campbell 19	Acres Land	2 Val	Tax	School Land	3 Val	Tax	Town Lots	Val
Albright Malon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Albright Nicholas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Albright Simpson	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Andrews Rhoda	90	150	70	—	—	—	—	—
Baker Peter	60	200	11	—	—	—	—	—
Bragg Martin	100	250	12½	—	—	—	—	—
5 Bragg Reuben	50	300	15	—	—	—	—	—
Brine Calvin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Butcher Nelly	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brantley Thomas 4	200	350	17½	—	—	—	—	—
Brookfield James	50	160	8	—	—	—	—	—
Baruff Christopher	25	50	2½	—	—	—	—	—
Black John	100	100	5	—	—	—	—	—
Bledsoe Pleasant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Callison Jun	350	325	16	—	—	—	—	—
Cooper Thomas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cork William	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cragg Reuben	262	1011	51	—	—	—	—	—
Duke William	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Citation: "Tennessee, Early Tax List Records, 1783–1895," digital images, Ancestry.com (http:// www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2883 : accessed 4 May 2022); citing Early Tax Lists of Tennessee, microfilm, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee.

1 The top of the page identifies the place as "District 1" of Campbell County, Tenn.

2 The first three columns after the taxpayer's name list acres, value and amount of tax on land.

3 Subsequent columns listed "school land" (set aside for future schools but leased out for farming), lots, slaves, and "Car." (carriages). For each, the sheet has a column for value and tax amount. There are also columns for "white polls" and total state tax.

4 When extracting information, watch for bleedthrough from marks on the other side of the page.

5 This 1839 tax list is alphabetized and doesn't include addresses, so we can't glean clues about neighbors.

the country. Some books labeled "censuses" may actually be tax lists used to create census substitutes. Check WorldCat <www.worldcat.org> for copies of those titles near you, or that can be lent to a local library.

Many state-level collections are the products of local compilers. They may also be available in historical and genealogical libraries in counties where you're researching.

UNDERSTANDING TAX LISTS

First and foremost, tax lists tie your ancestor to a particular place, either where he actually lived or sometimes where he owned or used property. And those mentioned will overwhelmingly be men—the populations included in tax records reflect the laws and mores of the time they were created. Women, for example, are not often found on historical tax lists because of their unequal status under the law. The only exceptions might be widows, who may have been granted income after their husbands died. People of color, too, will be underrepresented.

But the information about those who *are* listed can be valuable in researching not just the taxpayer, but his whole household. The data in some lists also show the person's occupation, descriptions of real estate being taxed, descriptions of certain forms of personal property (including farm animals), the number of taxable males in the household, the number of schoolchildren and the number of enslaved people.

Even the simplest lists can be useful because they often differentiate between men of the same name by adding extra information. The tax collector or assessor would use these details to make sure he could determine which man owed what tax. Examples of this added data might be first names of the fathers for each of two same-named men, the men's occupations (even when not required by the form), or some geographic locator such as "by the Bow Creek."

Contextual information from tax lists can also be useful. For example, people listed above or below your ancestor in a non-alphabetized tax list might well have been his neighbors; collectors and assessors generally rode a circuit through the community. And any crossed-out names would indicate someone either died or moved since the last assessment.

tip

Like other secondary sources, published tax lists may "edit out" some details in the original lists, and they are subject to copying errors. Once you find your relative in a compilation, use the details to look for the original tax record.

Tax records let you anchor your ancestors in a particular place and discover in detail their economic situations over time.

In some states, agents made special notes about school-aged children. This may have been a simple tally of the numbers of schoolchildren in each household. Or, as in Pennsylvania, the names of families who could not pay fees for public education (before the advent of the government-funded schools) were sometimes listed at the end of tax registers.

When seeking out tax lists, consider your ancestor's time and place like a cross-hairs. That will help you find the correct tax list and interpret its data correctly.

For example, don't assume that an ancestor's land is in the same county now that it was in 1850. County borders may have shifted, or new counties might have been formed out of old. As a result, land and tax records may be in different counties. Likewise, as cities grew, they annexed land from neighboring townships or unincorporated areas of counties, so an area that's in a city today might well have been part of a distinct county when your ancestor lived there.

In public-land states, real estate taxes were usually organized by township and range, with the section coordinates given right in the tax register. That makes it easier to identify the land on a modern map. In state-land states, on the other hand, landowners' holdings are usually identified only by a number of acres, which might only roughly correspond with reality. Those acreages, however, usually stay consistent unless a change in use or owner happened, so they're good markers for shifts in ancestors' status.

Research the laws behind tax lists to better understand what information they sought to collect and where records might be today. You may find a citation of the relevant law at the beginning of a set of tax records, but you might have to search contemporary state statutes for further information. The book *Genealogy and the Law* by Kay Haviland Freilich and William Freilich (National Genealogical Society) is a good starting point, as is Judy Russell's "Legal Genealogist" blog <www.legalgenealogist.com>.

The age when men's names appeared on some type of tax list was determined by law—16, 18 and 21 were popular options—and usually meant they had to pay the head tax even if these "single freemen" (as they were called in some jurisdictions) didn't own land or significant personal property.

It's not unusual for men to have fibbed about their age, and thus be listed two or three years later than their ages would justify. (Attracting the tax collector's eye was no more popular in bygone days than today!) Using these portions of the lists can help you trace family units that lack children's birth records by studying when the males are first taxed.

Eventually, many men went on to pay taxes on personal property, either by purchasing land or gaining dowry from their fathers-in-law. In this way, you can trace ancestors from adulthood into old age: from paying a simple head tax upon coming of age, to paying a levy on personal property, to dying or aging out of tax liability altogether. Tax lists also indicate migrations or other moves from one area to another.

tip

Many tax lists are created by third-party assessors, leading to spelling variations in your ancestors' names from year to year. Think phonetically.

ALTERNATIVE TAX RECORDS

Various levels of government have collected any number of other taxes that aren't found in a list format. For instance, states have enacted inheritance or estate taxes that will list names of heirs (most often relatives of the deceased). Because these are state-level records, you sometimes can use them as substitutes for the probate records of "burned counties." In those cases, original copies at the courthouse will likely have perished. But copies of the inheritance or estate tax data sent to a higher government office may still exist.

Additional tax-related records, such as business licenses fees and liquor and cigarette taxes, are likely to have limited personal information (except for the individual licensee).

If you're striking out with tax lists and related records, look for land and probate records for clues about your ancestor's income and place of residence. Wills, in particular, often detail personal assets like land and personal property. ●

James M. Beidler

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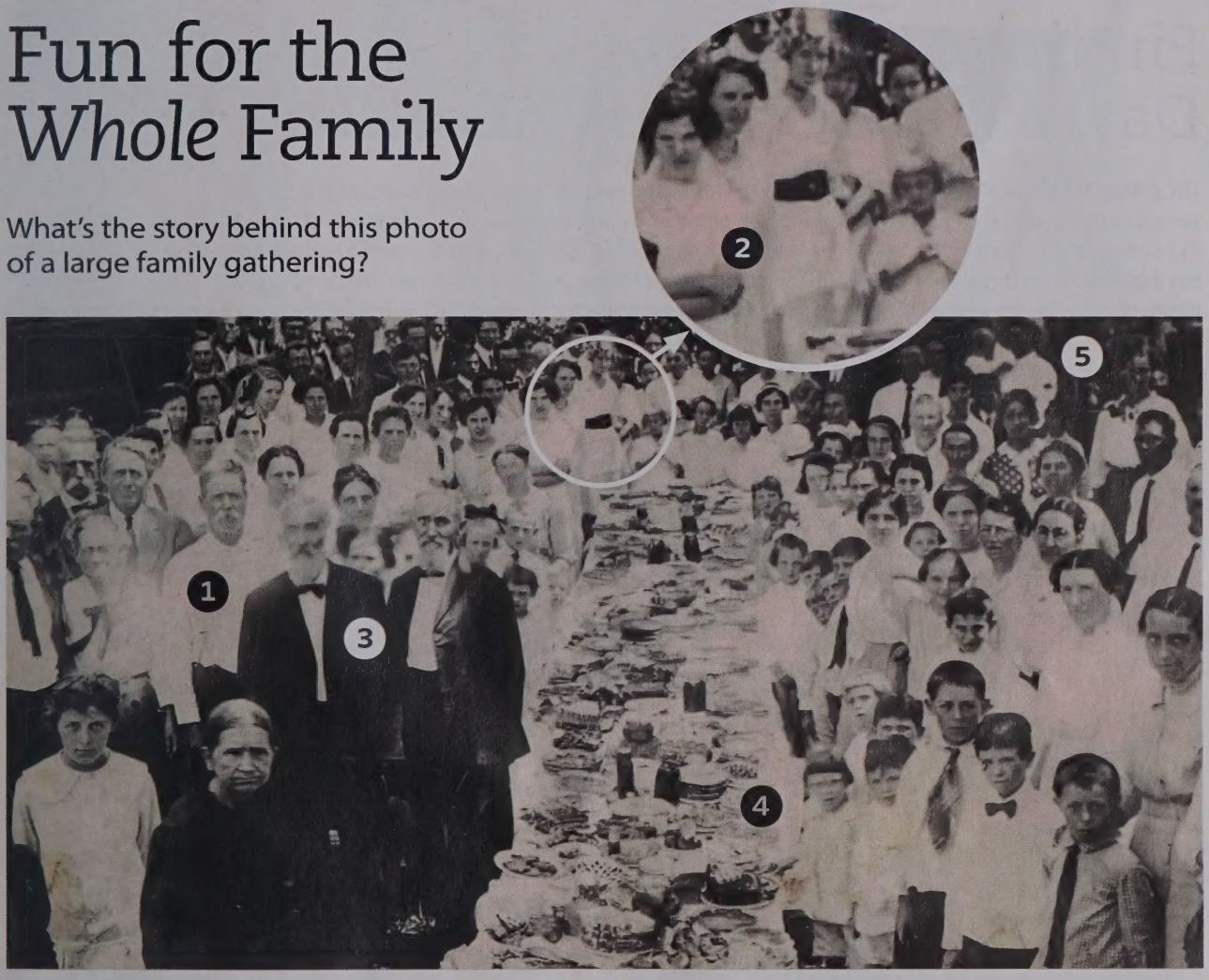
Fun for the *Whole* Family

What's the story behind this photo of a large family gathering?



1 A reader found this photo in the memory box of Meta Sechler Furr (1901–1990). The occasion is unknown, but it's a warm-weather event based on the shorts and light-colored clothing. A newspaper search for gatherings that took place in China Grove and Kannapolis, N.C., where Meta's family lived, might help identify the event.

Maureen A. Taylor is the *author of* Family Photo Detective *(Family Tree Books).*

2 When trying to date photos, look for a fashionable young woman. Based on the dress of the woman at the head of the table, the photo was taken in roughly 1914. Her belted outfit with a loose overskirt was typical of that period.

3 Based on that 1914 date, Meta would have been age 13 in this image. She could be one of the teenagers. Study the faces and make a list of how old everyone in Meta's nuclear and extended family would be in 1914. Then compare faces with other images in the family. Who's the youngest and the oldest? The two senior men in suits on the left (for example) could be brothers, likely close in age.

4 Look at the food. The table is full of desserts—pies, cakes and cookies. You can find cookbooks from the period on the Internet Archive <www.archive.org>, which will add some context to this photo story.

5 With all these people in the image, it's likely other copies were created, maybe even distributed. A professional might have encouraged attendees to purchase one. Contact extended family on genealogy sites, use social media to crowdsource for the area in which they lived, and reach out to local newspapers in print at the time.

Have a photo mystery you'd like Maureen to investigate? Email FamilyTree@Yankeepub.com with your photo, any details you know about it, and *Photo Detective* in the subject line, and your question may be selected for a future issue.

Finding Maps at the David Rumsey Map Collection

The **David Rumsey Map Collection** <www.davidrumsey.com> is a free online portal that will help you put your family history on the map—on *lots* of maps, potentially. Housed at the Stanford University Library, the collection has 150,000 maps, more than 75% of which are now online. The collection has a global scope but is strongest for maps of the United States, with holdings including property maps (which may show boundaries, land use, and landowners' names), insurance maps (which detail neighborhoods, roads and buildings), railroad maps, military maps, topographical maps and more.

Sunny Jane Morton

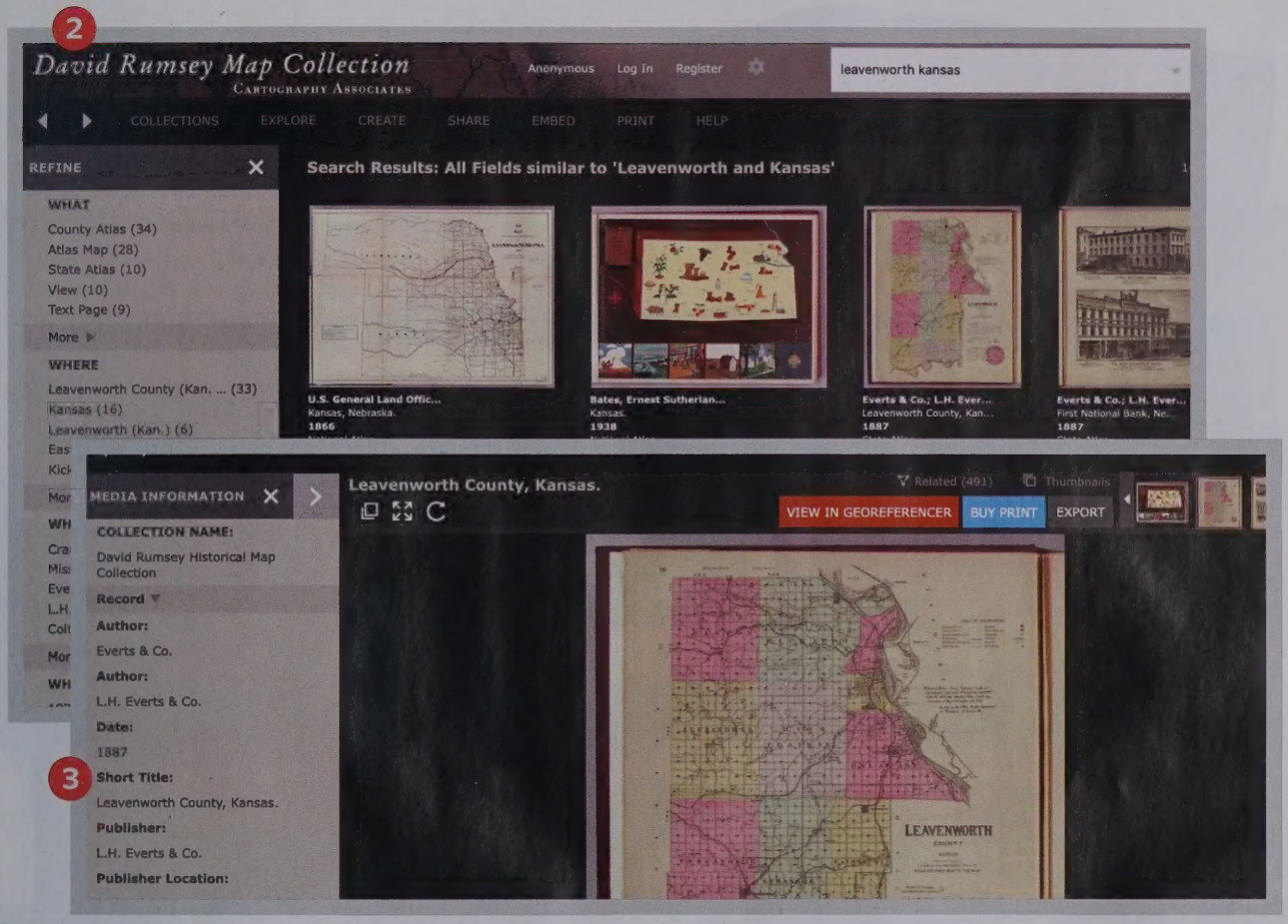
1 Start with the main search box, where you'll enter keywords associated with the place you're researching (for example, *Leavenworth Kansas*). You can use terms like *and*, *or*, or *equals* to make your searches here more powerful, or wildcard characters to help with spelling and name variants (a question mark to replace one character, and an asterisk to replace several characters). Hit Go.

tip

Remember that the place you're interested in may be under the name of various historical geographic jurisdictions.

2 Your search results will appear in the site's LUNA Viewer. You can customize your search experience using the gear icon: size of search results, number of results that appear on one page, and even the background color. Use filters along the left size to refine your search, such as for more-specific locations or a year of creation. Scrolling down, you can also search by specific map creators.

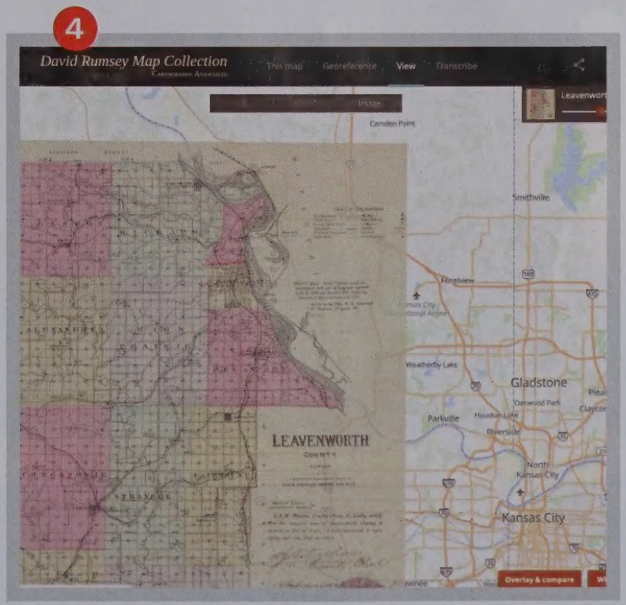
Using a filter of 1878 brings up results that appear to be several pages from a digitized map book, which includes all kinds of supporting pages that are not actually maps. But they can help you understand this place—which is ultimately your goal when searching for maps, right?



3 Click a result to explore that map in greater detail. On the right, you can zoom in or out, showing you great details (even down to specific buildings). Use the arrows to move around the image, or the home icon to return to the original view. You can also rotate an image or take it full screen.

At left, you'll also find the Image Manipulation Toolbar. In addition to rotating the image, you can change the image's brightness, contrast, or color saturation. There are even icons for converting the image to black-and-white, or for inverting the maps colors. (Some maps are easier to read this way.) Hit the Reset icon if you want to return to the original image presentation.

4 Some maps have been digitally overlaid on modern maps, and you can explore them using the Georeferencer. This is a great way to see where an ancestral location is today. Use the slider tool over here to make the map more opaque or transparent. There are some more-advanced tools here too, including an overlay tool that lets you overlay multiple maps. You can also view maps embedded in Google Maps or Google Earth, via the View Collection tab on the home page. ●



See a video walkthrough of the site at <www.familytreemagazine.com/websites/how-to-use-david-rumsey-map-collection-for-genealogy>.

Preserving Old Luggage

1 Identify the materials used in a piece of luggage's construction. Vintage suitcases, "holdalls," and trunks might have been made from fabric, paper, cardboard, leather, animal skins, vinyl or wood. Even the hardware holding the piece together—nails, screws, thread, glue, and so on—can vary. Different materials require different care. Leather or plastic suitcases, for example, should be stored in a large cotton pillowcase to avoid scratching. And cardboard luggage, lightweight and inexpensive, requires special care when cleaning to avoid exposing uncoated paper.

2 Do *not* remove stickers. Address labels, travel stickers, and other great ephemera may decorate the piece, but it's usually best not to remove them. Instead, conservator Donia Conn suggests gently wiping stickers with a dry-cleaning sponge such as the Wall-Brite Smoke/Soot Eraser. Avoid rubbing too hard; this may tear the paper or remove ink.

3 Vacuum the luggage piece with the upholstery brush of a vacuum, inside and out. Work slowly to pick up any loose dirt or debris, and wear cotton or nitrile gloves when handling. Remember to vacuum the hardware and hinges, too. Cut the sponge into smaller pieces to work in tight places.

4 Gently clean. Use a cloth dampened with distilled water to carefully remove any remaining grime and dirt. For stubborn stains, gently apply a solution of liquid dishwashing detergent and distilled water. (A ratio of one tablespoon of detergent per one pint of water should be safe.) Avoid harsh, commercial cleaners, including leather cleaners or dressings that can leave a sticky surface. For hardware, use an old toothbrush to administer a slurry paste of baking soda and distilled water. Make sure you don't get any on the case itself! Sliding a piece of plastic between the hardware and case can help.

5 Mend any fabric tears. Satchels, often made of canvas or sturdy upholstery fabric, made practical carrying cases for both men and women. Examine the piece for tears or fraying before vacuuming. Use heavy cotton thread in any repairs. Care for duffel bags in the same way.

6 Let in some air. Musty, smelly luggage will benefit from a good dose of fresh air in a shaded place outside, assuming the piece is in good-enough condition to move. (Obviously, be wary of the weather!) If odors persist, sprinkle baking powder or activated charcoal (such as the kind used in aquarium filters) into a shallow pan, then place inside the case. Close the lid and allow several days or weeks for the substance to absorb odors.

Denise May Levenick
aka The Family Curator
<www.thefamilycurator.com>
is the author of How to Archive Family Keepsakes *(Family Tree Books).*

7 Keep away from moisture, heat and light. Try not to store pieces in attics, garages or basements where humidity and temperature fluctuate, nor near lamps or in direct sunlight. Pests are also a factor to consider. The best place is likely a sturdy closet shelf inside your home. ●

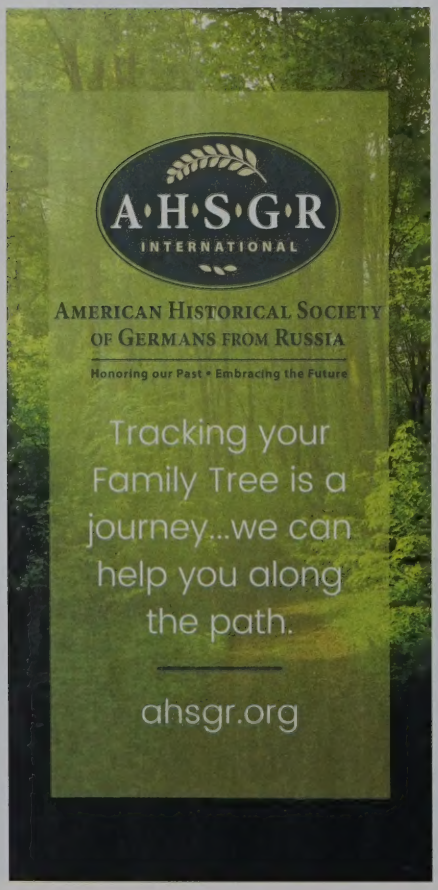
Q I can't find my great-grandfather, Alfred Bates, anywhere after the 1911 British census in Middlesex, which showed him with his wife and daughter.

A Sometimes when an ancestor gets "lost," it's helpful to switch your focus to other family members, even collateral relatives and neighbors. That's also a smart strategy when an ancestor has a too-common name, like Alfred Bates.

The 1911 census places Alfred in Hillingdon, Uxbridge, Middlesex, age 29, with wife Alice Selina, 27, and daughter Lily Emily Alice, 9 months. The recently released 1921 census of England and Wales likely can trace his family 10 years later. But you don't *need* it to discover what happened to Alfred.

Search instead for Alice. She appears in the 1939 National Register, a census-like record of about 40 million people in England and Wales initially created to produce national identity cards. At least an index is available on all four of the big genealogy websites, notably the free FamilySearch <www.familysearch.org> and UK-focused Findmypast <www.findmypast.com>.

Have a question you'd like David to answer? Email FamilyTree@Yankeepub.com with *Now What* in the subject line, and your question may be selected for a future issue.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In that collection, 54-year-old Alice, still lives in Uxbridge with "Lily E A Bates, 29," as well as son Alfred, 27 (i.e., born after the 1911 census). The names and ages are a match for Alfred's family—but where is he?

Alice is listed as a widow, which suggests Alfred had died. A fresh search for Alfred finds several listings in both death registers and the 1939 National Register. But one stands out: a death registration in Uxbridge in the fourth quarter of 1935, age 54 (born about 1881).

Q We have family members who are buried on what is now someone's private property. What if we want to visit graves and the current property owner doesn't allow this?

A Legal experts often note that a fundamental right of owning property is "the right to exclude"—that is, to keep others out. But that right often doesn't apply to preventing relatives from visiting graves on a piece of land.

One famous example involved the feuding Hatfields and McCoys. Descendants of six McCoys killed in the feud during the late 19th century wanted to access their graves on property now belonging to a Hatfield descendant, who refused. As the Hatfield property owner discovered, the right to exclude bumps up against another legal principle: Relatives of persons buried on private property have an "implied easement in gross" to visit those graves.

An "implied" easement means the right of access is implied by law, rather than specified in a deed. For graves, this right is protected by statute in some states, and by case law in others. Virginia spells it out in greatest detail, giving family members and descendants, cemetery plot owners, and even genealogical researchers (hooray!) a right of access across property to access graves. Other states require would-be visitors to petition the court.

According to an article in a 2006 issue of the *BYU Law Review,* written by Alfred L. Brophy, "Most commonly the deceased is a member of the family of the owners at the time of burial, but the deceased may not be related to the owners of the property. In either case, giving permission to bury the deceased carries with it an implied grant of permission for the relatives to visit the property." This right of access even extends to instances where the original property has been subdivided and relatives must cross a second property to reach the graves.

If the property owner of your ancestors' graves refuses access, you may need to consult an attorney to determine your rights in your state. In general, though, the law is on your side. •

David A. Fryxell *is the founding editor of* Family Tree Magazine. *He now writes and researches his family tree in Tucson.*

FamilyTreeDNA

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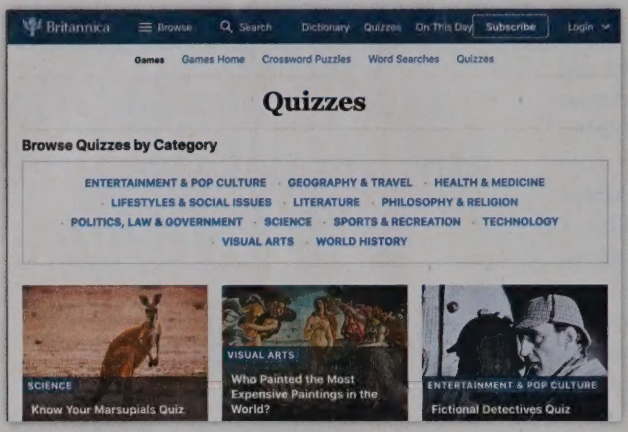
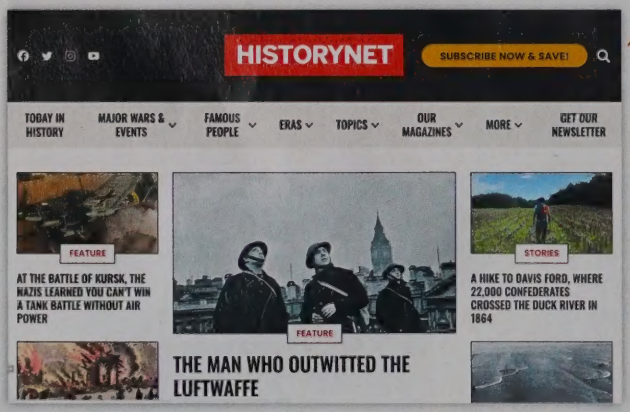
Websites for Learning Social History



1 Encyclopedia Britannica
<www.britannica.com>
Look for short, expert-written, fact-checked entries of international scope in this online encyclopedia. Under Browse, find quizzes, games, infographics and podcasts to take your learning further. Longer articles and ad-free viewing may require a paid subscription.

2 Food Timeline
<www.foodtimeline.org>
What your ancestors ate tells you a lot about their daily lives. Explore articles, timelines, recipes and menus. Follow the histories of favorite dishes from black-eyed peas to baklava, from school lunches to sushi. Reference librarian and food history fanatic Lynne Olver originally developed the fact-checked and cited content; the site is now supported by Virginia Tech University Libraries.



3 HistoryNet
<www.historynet.com>
Search for US history topics from the California Gold Rush to D-Day. Explore curated topics such as news, politics, military history, travel, women, civil rights, Black history, Native American history and travel. Watch for book reviews on subjects of interest. Fuel your learning by subscribing to a free weekly newsletter.

4 Immigration to the United States, 1789–1930
<library.harvard.edu/collections/immigration-united-states-1789-1930>
This Harvard Library resource (a 101 Best Websites honoree, see page 19) allows you to search among thousands of digitized books, pamphlets, periodicals, manuscripts and photos to learn more about voluntary immigration to the United States. Content is strongest for the 1800s. Search for content about places, the people who came from them, and their destinations.

5 Library of Congress Digital Collections
<www.loc.gov/collections>
Chronicling America (the online US newspaper resource) <chroniclingamerica.loc.gov> is just one of the many resources available here. Explore digitized photos, documents, drawings, personal narratives, legislation and more. Look for US maps of all kinds, such as Sanborn, city, panoramic, railroad and other maps. Dig deeper for projects covering slavery, veterans and folklife.

Read Shelley K. Bishop's list of free social history websites, categorized by subject <www.familytreemagazine.com/history/top-social-history-websites>.

DNA Q&A

DNA Painter

Q What is DNA Painter and why do I need it? (Or do I need at all?)

A Though they don't provide testing services themselves, third-party tools like DNA Painter <www.dnapainter.com> help you further use or interpret the test results you receive from another company.

DNA Painter has a lot to offer in this department and has become one of the leading resources for genetic genealogy. Currently DNA Painter has three main categories of services:

1. Trees: Build a color-coded family tree in DNA Painter, or upload a GEDCOM file. One favorite feature of mine is "mark a genetic ancestor," which helps keep track of ancestors in the tree whose descendants you've identified as DNA matches.

2. Chromosome Mapping: This powerful analysis visualizes the way you've received DNA from ancestors. It's fun and interesting, but not for the faint of heart! Though some consider it a key tool for investigation, you don't need to know how to map chromosomes (or read a chromosome map) to solve family mysteries.

> **Confused by the term "shared DNA"? Our editors break down what shared DNA is and how you can use it <www.familytreemagazine.com/dna-how-to-use-shared-dna-to-determine-relationships>.**

3. Tools: The website's most impactful feature, by far, is its collection of tools <www.dnapainter.com/tools>. Several are useful for researchers, but two really stand out for genetic genealogists of most experience levels.

The Shared cM Tool <www.dnapainter.com/tools/sharedcmv4> outlines how many centimorgans (cM) you can expect to share with various relatives. Enter a cM amount (which is reported by the major companies), and the tool presents you with a handful of relationship possibilities. The tool is the brainchild of three prominent genetic genealogists: Blaine Bettinger, Leah Larkin, and DNA Painter founder Jonny Perl.

The other key tool, What Are the Odds? (affectionately known as WATO or Wh-ah-toe) <www.dnapainter.com/tools/probability>, also attempts to translate your shared DNA into relationship terms. Using the tool, build a theoretical pedigree chart that includes spots for you and your DNA matches who you know share a common ancestor. Then the tool will evaluate how likely the arrangement is based on the amount of DNA you and your matches share. The tool has a bit of a learning curve, but lets you test out various hypotheses at once.

No matter how you're using it, DNA Painter is a tool every genetic genealogist needs in their toolbox. Most people will be happy with the free version, though if you're feeling ambitious (or just supportive of the site's mission!) you may want to opt for the paid plan ($55/year). ●

Diahan Southard

GET ORGANIZED

Quick Guide: Free Online Records

Find these key usually-for-subscription records on free websites.

Collection title	Subscription access	Free access
Canadian censuses (1851–1921)	• Ancestry.com • MyHeritage	• FamilySearch (1841–1911) • Findmypast (1841–1911) • Library and Archives Canada <www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/Pages/census.aspx>
English censuses (1841–1911)	• Ancestry.com • Findmypast (includes 1921) • MyHeritage	• FamilySearch • FreeCen <www.freecen.org.uk>
New York passenger lists (1820–1957)	• Ancestry.com • Findmypast • MyHeritage	• FamilySearch • Statue of Liberty—Ellis Island Foundation <heritage.statueofliberty.org>
US censuses (1790–1880, 1900–1950)	• Ancestry.com* • Findmypast* (1790–1940) • Fold3 (1860, 1900–1930) • MyHeritage*	• FamilySearch • National Archives (1950 only) <1950census.archives.gov/search>
US Civil War soldiers index	• Ancestry.com • Findmypast • Fold3 • MyHeritage	• Civil War Soldiers and Sailors Database <www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm> • FamilySearch
US Social Security Death Index	• Ancestry.com	• FamilySearch • Fold3 • GenealogyBank • MyHeritage • One-Step Webpages by Stephen P. Morse <www.stevemorse.org/ssdi/ssdi.html>

*The major subscription sites allow free access to just some US censuses: Ancestry.com to 1880, 1940 and 1950; Findmypast to 1940; and MyHeritage to 1950.

Learn about free records at otherwise-for-pay sites <www.familytreemagazine.com/websites/free-genealogy-records-paid-websites>.

In each issue, **Your Turn** offers a form that'll help you preserve your family's unique stories and organize your research. Tear out and use the form or make a photocopy.

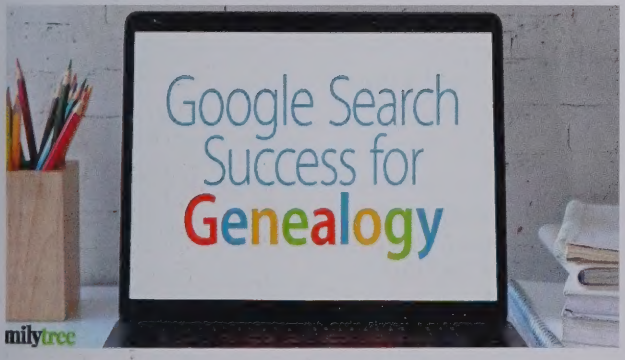
familytree UNIVERSITY

Online Course Calendar

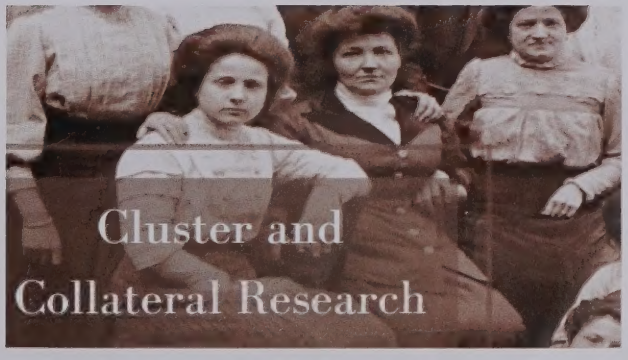
Highlights from July 2022*

begins July 5th**

begins July 13th



begins July 18th



begins July 25th

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*Course schedule subject to change. Visit <www.familytreemagazine.com/course> for the latest.
**"Mastering Family Tree Maker" will begin on Tuesday, July 5th, because of the Fourth of July holiday.

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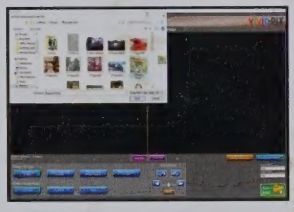

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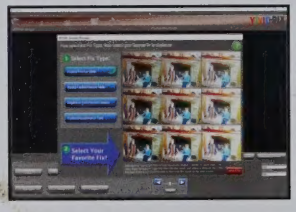

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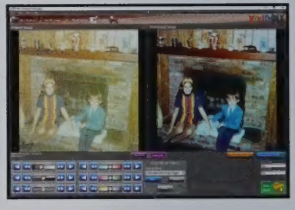

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- Reminisce
- Family Activity
- How-To Zoom
- Miscellaneous

Genealogy Education

- Tips & Tricks
- 30-Day Rental
- On The Road Again
- Free Librarian/Library Classes
- Miscellaneous

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- Tell Your Stories
- Organize / Scan / Store
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- Miscellaneous

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1950 Census Clyde R. Copley

Name	Clyde R. Copley
Age	56
Birth Date	1894
Gender	M (Male)
Birth Place	Kentucky
Marital Status	Married
Relation to Head of House	Head
Residence Date	1950
Home in 1950	Newark, Licking, Ohio, USA
Dwelling Number	74
Farm	No
Acres	No
Occupation Category	Unable to work (long-term disability, not short illness)
Worked Last Week	No
Seeking Work	No
Employment Status	No
Worker Class	For Private Employer
Household Members	Household Members

View record page for additional details, certificate purchase, suggested records, or to report an issue.

NATIONAL
ARCHIVES

William G Copley in the

U.S., Headstones Provided for Deceased Union Civil War Veterans, 1861-1904

Compare details

Record details

Name	William G Copley
Date of Death	14 Jan 1876
Burial Place	Near Louisa, Kentucky, USA
Rank	Pvt
Regiment	5
Company	F
Unit	W Va Infy

View record page for additional details, certificate purchase, suggested records, or to report an issue.

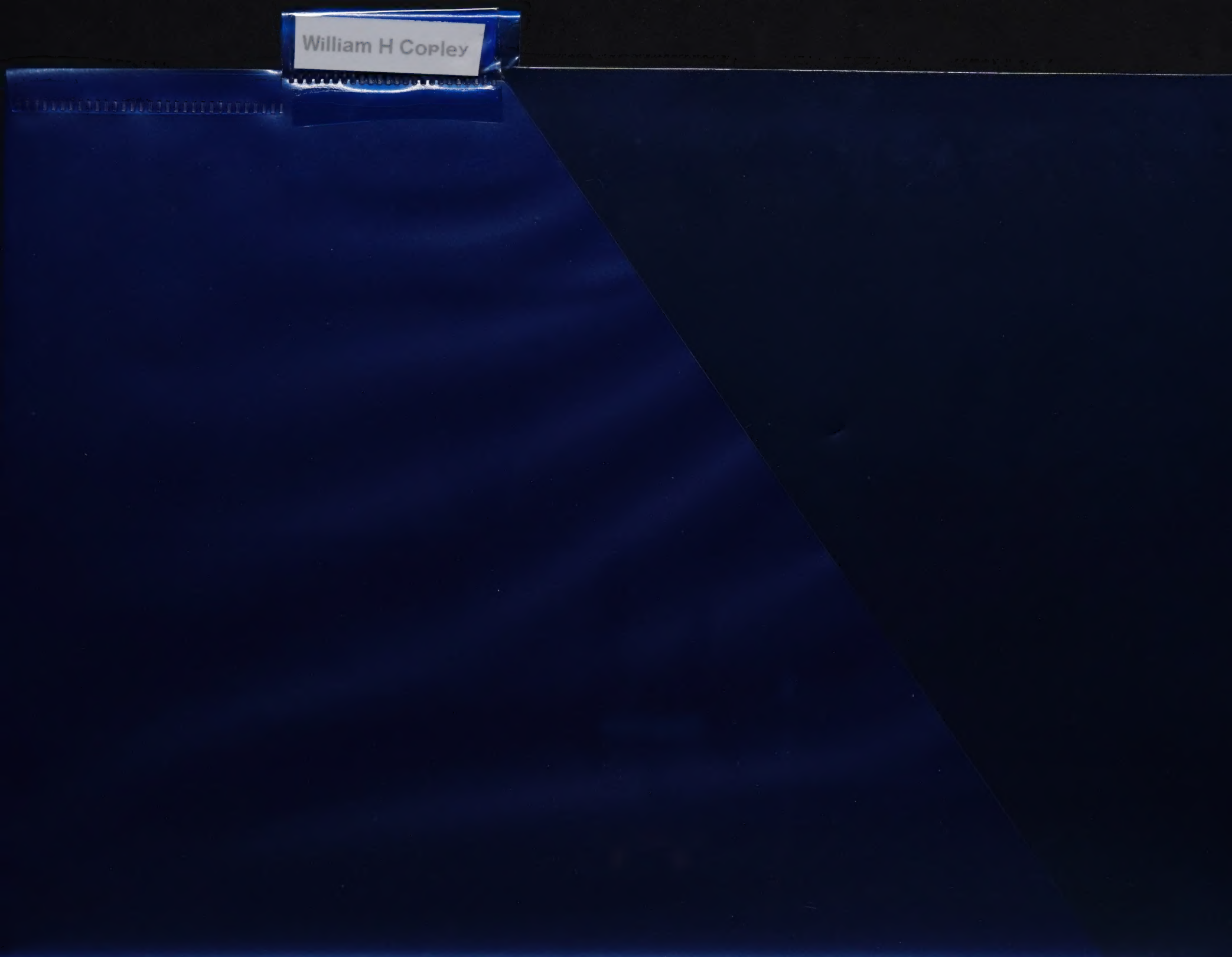
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Provided in association with National Archives and Records Administration

Ancestry.com. *U.S., Headstones Provided for Deceased Union Civil War Veterans, 1861-1904* [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007.

Would you like to save this information to your tree?

William H Copley


William H Copley

William H Copley in the

U.S., Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1865

Compare details

Record details

Name	William H Copley
Enlistment Rank	Private
Muster Place	Virginia
Muster Company	D
Muster Regiment	22nd Battn Infantry
Muster Regiment Type	Infantry
Muster Information	Enlisted
Side of War	Confederacy
Title	Index to Compiled Confederate Military Service Records

View record page for additional details, certificate purchase, suggested records, or to report an issue.

Historical Data Systems, comp. *U.S., Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1865* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2009.

Would you like to save this information to your tree?

Detail Source

Regiment:	22nd Infantry Battalion Virginia
Date of Organization:	15 May 1862
Muster Date:	9 Apr 1865
Regiment State:	Virginia
Regiment Type:	Infantry
Regiment Number:	22nd
Battles:	Fought on 6 Apr 1865 at Amelia Court House, VA.
Find Soldiers in this Regiment:	U.S. Civil War Soldier Records a

Individual Report for william COPLEY

Individual Summary:	william COPLEY
Sex:	Male
Father:	william h. MARTIN
Mother:	druzilla

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	28 Nov 1840
Shared Facts:	**[no spouse]**
	[no facts]
Children:	general milroy COPLEY

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for general milroy COPLEY

Individual Summary:	general milroy COPLEY
Sex:	Male
Father:	william COPLEY
Mother:	

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	27 Apr 1867 in wayne county wv
Death:	23 Nov 1942 in Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, United States

Shared Facts:	laura ENDICOTT
	[no facts]
Children:	Clyde Ray COPLEY
	roy c. COPLEY
	neva COPLEY
	vera COPLEY
	emery o. COPLEY
	sue COPLEY

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for general milroy COPLEY

Individual Summary: general milroy COPLEY

Sex: Male

Father: william COPLEY
Mother:

Individual Facts:

Birth: 27 Apr 1887 in wayne county wv
Death: 23 Nov 1962 in Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, United States

Shared Facts: Iewra ENDICOTT

[no facts]

Children: Clyde Ray COPLEY
roy c. COPLEY
neva COPLEY
vera COPLEY
emery o. COPLEY
sue COPLEY

Notes:

Person Notes: [no notes]

Timeline Report for general milroy COPLEY

	Yr/Age	Event	Date/Place/Description
	1867	Birth	27 Apr 1867 wayne county wv
	1942 75	Death	23 Nov 1942 Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, United States

Timeline Report for general milroy COPLEY

YrsAge	Event	Date/Place/Description
1807	Birth	27 Apr 1807 wayne county wv
1842 75	Death	23 Nov 1842 Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, United States

Individual Report for laura ENDICOTT

Individual Summary:	laura ENDICOTT
Sex:	Female
Father:	joshua ENDICOTT
Mother:	elizabeth SAMMONS

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	Jan 1876 in wayne county wv
Death:	01 Apr 1918 in Scioto, Ohio, United States; greenlawn cemetery

Shared Facts:	general milroy COPLEY
	[no facts]
Children:	Clyde Ray COPLEY
	roy c. COPLEY
	neva COPLEY
	vera COPLEY
	emery o. COPLEY
	sue COPLEY

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for laura ENDICOTT

Individual Summary: laura ENDICOTT

Sex: Female

Father: Joshua ENDICOTT
Mother: elizabeth SAMMONS

Individual Facts:

Birth: Jan 1876 in wayne county wv
Death: 01 Apr 1918 in Scioto, Ohio, United States, greenlawn cemetery

Shared Facts: general mulroy COPLEY

[no facts]

Children: Clyde Ray COPLEY
roy e. COPLEY
neva COPLEY
vera COPLEY
emmy e. COPLEY
sue COPLEY

Notes:

Person Notes: [no notes]

Timeline Report for laura ENDICOTT

	Yr/Age	Event	Date/Place/Description
	1876	Birth	Jan 1876 wayne county wv
	1918 42	Death	01 Apr 1918 Scioto, Ohio, United States; greenlawn cemetery

Individual Report for Clyde Ray COPLEY

Individual Summary:	Clyde Ray COPLEY
Sex:	Male
Father:	general milroy COPLEY
Mother:	laura ENDICOTT

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	06 Jan 1894 in Greenup, Greenup, Kentucky, USA
Death:	31 May 1967 in Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States

Shared Facts:	Cora Isabelle MARTIN
	[no facts]
Children:	Jenevieve L COPLEY
	ray martin COPLEY
	george elwood COPLEY
	martha june COPLEY
	charlotte marvell COPLEY
	joyce alberta COPLEY
	joy roberta COPLEY
	clarence robert COPLEY
	wanda jean COPLEY
	mary jane COPLEY
	charles kermit COPLEY
	cora belle COPLEY

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for Clyde Ray COPLEY

Individual Summary: Clyde Ray COPLEY

Sex: Male

Father: [illegible]
Mother: [illegible]

Individual Facts:

Birth: 06 Jan 1894 in [illegible]
Death: 31 May 1957 in [illegible]

Shared Facts: Cora Isabelle MARTIN

[no facts]

Children: [illegible]

Notes:

Person Notes: [no notes]

Timeline Report for Clyde Ray COPLEY

	Yr/Age	Event	Date/Place/Description
	1894	Birth	06 Jan 1894 Greenup, Greenup, Kentucky, USA
	1920 25	Residence	1920 Clay, Scioto, Ohio
	1967 73	Death	31 May 1967 Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States

Timeline Report for Clyde Ray COPLEY

YrsAge	Event	Date/Place/Description
1894	Birth	06 Jan 1894 Greenup, Greenup, Kentucky, USA
1920 25	Residence	1920 Clay, Scioto, Ohio
1967 73	Death	31 May 1967 Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States

Individual Report for roy c. COPLEY

Individual Summary:	roy c. COPLEY
Sex:	Male
Father:	general milroy COPLEY
Mother:	laura ENDICOTT

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	1896 in Kentucky, USA
Death:	Mar 1978 in sulfur ,murray, oklahoma, usa

Shared Facts:	[no spouse]
	[no facts]
Children:	[no children]

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for roy c. COPLEY

Individual Summary: roy c. COPLEY

Sex: Male

Father: general milroy COPLEY
Mother: laura ENDICOTT

Individual Facts:

Birth: 1856 in Kentucky, USA
Death: Mar 1878 in sulfur, murray, oklahoma, usa

Shared Facts: [no spouse]

[no facts]

Children: [no children]

Notes:

Person Notes: [no notes]

Individual Report for neva COPLEY

Individual Summary:	neva COPLEY
Sex:	Female
Father:	general milroy COPLEY
Mother:	laura ENDICOTT

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	1899

Shared Facts:	[no spouse]
	[no facts]
Children:	[no children]

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for neva COPLEY

Individual Summary: neva COPLEY

Sex: Female

Father: general mitzy COPLEY
Mother: laura ENDICOTT

Individual Facts:

Birth: 1859

Shared Facts: [no spouse]

[no facts]

Children: [no children]

Notes:

Person Notes: [no notes]

Individual Report for vera COPLEY

Individual Summary:	vera COPLEY
Sex:	Female
Father:	general milroy COPLEY
Mother:	laura ENDICOTT

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	1901
Death:	1967

Shared Facts:	[no spouse]
	[no facts]
Children:	[no children]

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for vera COPLEY

Individual Summary: vera COPLEY

Sex: Female

Father: general milroy COPLEY
Mother: laura ENDICOTT

Individual Facts:

Birth: 1901
Death: 1957

Shared Facts: [no spouse]

[no facts]

Children: [no children]

Notes:

Person Notes: [no notes]

Individual Report for emery o. COPLEY

Individual Summary:	emery o. COPLEY
Sex:	Male
Father:	general milroy COPLEY
Mother:	laura ENDICOTT

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	1903
Death:	1923

Shared Facts:	[no spouse]
	[no facts]
Children:	[no children]

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for sue COPLEY

Individual Summary:	sue COPLEY
Sex:	Female
Father:	general milroy COPLEY
Mother:	laura ENDICOTT

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	1908
Death:	1994

Shared Facts:	ALBERTSON
	[no facts]
Children:	[no children]

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for Cora Isabelle MARTIN

Individual Summary:	Cora Isabelle MARTIN
Sex:	Female
Father:	s.d. MARTIN
Mother:	nancy jane POWELL

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	04 Jun 1897 in Ohio, United States
Death:	1956 in Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States

Shared Facts:	Clyde Ray COPLEY
	[no facts]
Children:	Jenevieve L COPLEY
	ray martin COPLEY
	george elwood COPLEY
	martha june COPLEY
	charlotte marvell COPLEY
	joyce alberta COPLEY
	joy roberta COPLEY
	clarence robert COPLEY
	wanda jean COPLEY
	mary jane COPLEY
	charles kermit COPLEY
	cora belle COPLEY

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for Cora Isabelle MARTIN

Individual Summary:	Cora Isabelle MARTIN
Sex:	Female
Father:	s.d. MARTIN
Mother:	nancy jane POWELL

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	04 Jun 1897 in Ohio, United States
Death:	1956 in Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States

Shared Facts:	Clyde Ray COPLEY
	[no facts]
Children:	Jenevieve L COPLEY
	ray martin COPLEY
	george elwood COPLEY
	martha jane COPLEY
	charlotte marvell COPLEY
	joyce sibella COPLEY
	joy roberta COPLEY
	clarence robert COPLEY
	wanda jean COPLEY
	mary jane COPLEY
	charles kermit COPLEY
	cora belle COPLEY

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Timeline Report for Cora Isabelle MARTIN

	Yr/Age	Event	Date/Place/Description
	1897	Birth	04 Jun 1897 Ohio, United States
	1920 22	Residence	1920 Clay, Scioto, Ohio
	1956 58	Death	1956 Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States

Timeline Report for Cora Isabelle MARTIN

Yr/Age	Event	Date/Place/Description
1897	Birth	04 Jun 1897 Ohio, United States
1920 22	Residence	1920 Clay, Scioto, Ohio
1956 58	Death	1956 Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States

Individual Report for nancy jane POWELL

Individual Summary:	nancy jane POWELL
Sex:	Female
Father:	joshua powell
Mother:	

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	04 Mar 1859
Death:	21 Sep 1926

Shared Facts:	s.d. MARTIN
	[no facts]
Children:	Cora Isabelle MARTIN

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for nancy jane POWELL

Individual Summary: nancy jane POWELL

Sex: Female

Father: joshua powell
Mother:

Individual Facts:

Birth: 04 Mar 1859
Death: 21 Sep 1928

Shared Facts: , s.d. MARTIN

[no facts]

Children: Cora Isabella MARTIN

Notes:

Person Notes: [no notes]

Individual Report for s.d. MARTIN

Individual Summary:	s.d. MARTIN
Sex:	Male
Father:	
Mother:	

Individual Facts:

Shared Facts:	nancy jane POWELL
	[no facts]
Children:	Cora Isabelle MARTIN

Notes:

Person Notes: [no notes]

Individual Report for cora belle COPLEY

Individual Summary:	cora belle COPLEY
Sex:	Female
Father:	Clyde Ray COPLEY
Mother:	Cora Isabelle MARTIN

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	05 Jan 1917 in Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, United States
Death:	24 Jul 1982 in Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States

Shared Facts:	Ern Ellis BROWN
Marriage:	03 Sep 1940 in sciotoville oh
Children:	rita belle BROWN

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for cora belle COPLEY

Individual Summary: cora belle COPLEY

Sex: Female

Father: Clyde Ray COPLEY
Mother: Cora Isabelle MARTIN

Individual Facts:

Birth: 05 Jan 1917 in Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, United States
Death: 24 Jul 1982 in Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States

Shared Facts: Em Ellis BROWN

Marriage: 03 Sep 1940 in scioto ville oh
Children: rita belle BROWN

Notes:

Person Notes: [no notes]

Timeline Report for cora belle COPLEY

	Yr/Age	Event	Date/Place/Description
	1917	Birth	05 Jan 1917 Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, United States
	1920 2	Residence	1920 Clay, Scioto, Ohio
	1930 12	Residence	1930 Porter, Scioto, Ohio
	1940 23	Marriage Ern Ellis BROWN	03 Sep 1940 sciotoville oh
	1982 65	Death	24 Jul 1982 Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States

Timeline Report for cora belle COPLEY

YrsAge	Event	Date/Place&Description
1917	Birth	05 Jan 1917 Portsmouth, Scioto, Ohio, United States
1920 2	Residence	1920 Clay, Scioto, Ohio
1930 12	Residence	1930 Porter, Scioto, Ohio
1940 23	Marriage Em Ellis BROWN	02 Sep 1940 sciotoville on
1982 86	Death	24 Jul 1982 Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States

Individual Report for rita belle BROWN

Individual Summary:	rita belle BROWN
Sex:	Female
Father:	Ern Ellis BROWN
Mother:	cora belle COPLEY

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	30 Jun 1947 in Newark, Licking, Ohio, USA

Shared Facts:	gary lewis LOVE
Marriage:	10 Jun 1967 in Thornville, Perry, Ohio, USA; Grace Lutheran Church
Children:	Brooke Elizabeth LOVE deidre anne LOVE

Shared Facts:	gary lewis LOVE
Marriage:	10 Jun 1967 in Thornville, Perry, Ohio, USA; marriage
Children:	Brooke Elizabeth LOVE deidre anne LOVE

Shared Facts:	daniel pierre WALTENER
Marriage:	12 Feb 1977 in Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, United States; Grace Evanglical Lutheran Church
Children:	sophie WALTENER caroline WALTENER

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for rita belle BROWN

Individual Summary: rita belle BROWN

Sex: Female

Father: Em Ellis BROWN
Mother: cora belle CORLEY

Individual Facts:

Birth: 30 Jun 1942 in Newark, Licking, Ohio, USA

Shared Facts: gary lewis LOVE

Marriage: 10 Jun 1967 in Thornville, Perry, Ohio, USA; Grace Lutheran Church
Children: Brooke Elizabeth LOVE
deidre anne LOVE

Shared Facts: gary lewis LOVE

Marriage: 10 Jun 1967 in Thornville, Perry, Ohio, USA; marriage
Children: Brooke Elizabeth LOVE
deidre anne LOVE

Shared Facts: daniel pierre WALTENER

Marriage: 12 Feb 1977 in Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, United States; Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Children: sophie WALTENER
caroline WALTENER

Notes:

Person Notes: [no notes]

	1983 35	Residence	1983 Cape Coral, Lee, Florida, United States
	1983 35	Occupation	Bet. 1983-1987 North Fort Myers, Lee, Florida, USA; Media Specialist at North Fort Myers High School
	1986 38	Divorce daniel pierre WALTENER	24 Mar 1986 Fort Myers, Lee, Florida, USA
	1987 39	Occupation	Bet. 1987-2001 Cape Coral, Lee, Florida, United States; Media Specialist at Mariner High School
	1988 40	Graduation	1988 Tampa, Florida, USA; Graduate degree MLS
	1988 40	Degree	Jun 1988 Tampa, Hillsborough, Florida, USA; Masters of Library Science Degree from University of South Florida
	1990 43	Marriage daniel pierre WALTENER	02 Jul 1990 Cape Coral, Lee, Florida, United States
	2001 53	Occupation	Bet. 2001-2014 Edgerton, Williams, Ohio, USA; High School Librarian at Edgerton High Schoo;l
	2014 66	Retirement	Jun 2014 montpelier
	2016 68	Property	2016 10776 State Rt. 15 Monteplier, Williams, Ohio, United States
	2016 69	Address	10 Oct 2016 10776 State Rt. 15 Monteplier, Williams, Ohio, United States
	2016 69	Medical Condition	10 Oct 2016 Montpelier, Williams, Ohio, USA; Sjogren's Syndrome
		Confirmation	
		Employment	
		Marriage gary lewis LOVE	

1983 Residence
35
1983
Cape Coral, Lee, Florida, United States

1983 Occupation
35
Bet. 1983-1987
North Fort Myers, Lee, Florida, USA; Media Specialist at North Fort Myers High School

1986 Divorce
36 daniel pierre WALTENER
24 Mar 1986
Fort Myers, Lee, Florida, USA

1987 Occupation
39
Bet. 1987-2001
Cape Coral, Lee, Florida, United States; Media Specialist at Manner High School

1988 Graduation
40
1988
Tampa, Florida, USA; Graduate degree MLS

1988 Degree
40
Jun 1988
Tampa, Hillsborough, Florida, USA; Masters of Library Science Degree from University of South Florida

1990 Marriage
43 daniel pierre WALTENER
02 Jul 1990
Cape Coral, Lee, Florida, United States

2001 Occupation
53
Bet. 2001-2014
Edgerton, Williams, Ohio, USA; High School Librarian at Edgerton High School

2014 Retirement
66
Jun 2014
montpelier

2016 Property
88
2016
10776 State Rt. 15 Montpelier, Williams, Ohio, United States

2016 Address
89
10 Oct 2016
10776 State Rt. 15 Montpelier, Williams, Ohio, United States

2016 Medical Condition
89
10 Oct 2016
Montpelier, Williams, Ohio, USA; Sjogren's Syndrome

Confirmation

Employment

Marriage
Jany Iewis LOVE

Timeline Report for rita belle BROWN

	Yr/Age	Event	Date/Place/Description
	1947	Birth	30 Jun 1947 Newark, Licking, Ohio, USA
	1965 17	Graduation	May 1965 Thornville, Perry, Ohio, USA; High School graduation
	1965 17	Graduation	May 1965 Thornville, Perry, Ohio, USA; Sheridan High School
	1967 19	Marriage	10 Jun 1967 Thornville, Perry, Ohio, USA; marriage
	1967 19	Marriage gary lewis LOVE	10 Jun 1967 Thornville, Perry, Ohio, USA; Grace Lutheran Church
	1969 21	Occupation	Bet. 1969-1971 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, United States; Social Studies teacher at Southmoor Jr. High School
	1969 21	Degree	Jun 1969 Capital University, Columbus, Franklin, Ohio; Bachelor of Arts Degree
	1969 21	Degree	Jun 1969 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, United States; Capital University - Bachelor of Arts Degree
	1969 21	Graduation	Jun 1969 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, USA; Graduated Capital University with a BA degree
	1972 24	Occupation	Bet. 1972-1974 Granville, Licking, Ohio, USA; Children's Librarian at Granville Public Library
	1974 26	Occupation	Bet. 1974-1977 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, United States; U.S. Federal Documents Librarian for Ohio Supremem Court Law Library
	1976 29	Divorce gary lewis LOVE	21 Oct 1976 Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States
	1977 29	Occupation	Bet. 1977-1979 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, United States; Assistant Law Librarin at Franklin County Law Library
	1977 29	Marriage daniel pierre WALTENER	12 Feb 1977 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, United States; Grace Evanglical Lutheran Church
	1979 31	Occupation	Bet. 1979-1983 Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States; Media Specialist at Licking Valley School District
	1983 35	Residence	1983 Cape Coral, FL

Timeline Report for rita belle BROWN

Yr/Age	Event	Date/Place/Description
1947	Birth	30 Jun 1947 Newark, Licking, Ohio, USA
1965 17	Graduation	May 1965 Thornville, Perry, Ohio, USA; High School graduation
1965 17	Graduation	May 1965 Thornville, Perry, Ohio, USA; Shrendan High School
1967 19	Marriage	10 Jun 1967 Thornville, Perry, Ohio, USA; marriage
1967 19	Marriage gary lewis LOVE	10 Jun 1967 Thornville, Perry, Ohio, USA; Christ Lutheran Church
1969 21	Occupation	Bet. 1969-1971 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, United States; Social Studies teacher at Southmoor Jr. High School
1969 21	Degree	Jun 1969 Capital University, Columbus, Franklin, Ohio; Bachelor of Arts Degree
1969 21	Degree	Jun 1969 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, United States; Capital University - Bachelor of Arts Degree
1969 21	Graduation	Jun 1969 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, USA; Graduated Capital University with a BA degree
1972 24	Occupation	Bet. 1972-1974 Granville, Licking, Ohio, USA; Children's Librarian at Granville Public Library
1974 26	Occupation	Bet. 1974-1977 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, United States; U S Federal Documents Librarian for Ohio Supreme Court Law Library
1979 29	Divorce gary lewis LOVE	21 Oct 1979 Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States
1977 29	Occupation	Bet. 1977-1979 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, United States; Assistant Law Librarin at Franklin County Law Library
1977 29	Marriage dane' glenn WALTENER	12 Feb 1977 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, United States; Greek Evangelical Lutheran Church
1979 31	Occupation	Bet. 1979-1983 Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States; Media Specialist at Licking Valley School District
1983 35	Residence	1983 Cape Coral, FL

Individual Report for gary lewis LOVE

Individual Summary:	gary lewis LOVE
Sex:	Male
Father:	
Mother:	

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	02 Feb 1947 in Somerset, Perry, Ohio, USA

Shared Facts:	rita belle BROWN
Marriage:	10 Jun 1967 in Thornville, Perry, Ohio, USA; Grace Lutheran Church
Children:	Brooke Elizabeth LOVE
	deidre anne LOVE

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Timeline Report for gary lewis LOVE

	Yr/Age	Event	Date/Place/Description
	1947	Birth	02 Feb 1947 Somerset, Perry, Ohio, USA
	1947	Birth	02 Feb 1947 Perry County, Oho, USA
	1967 20	Marriage rita belle BROWN	10 Jun 1967 Thornville, Perry, Ohio, USA; Grace Lutheran Church
	1976 29	Divorce rita belle BROWN	21 Oct 1976 Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States
		Marriage rita belle BROWN	

Timeline Report for gary lewis LOVE

YrlAge	Event	Date/Place/Description
1947	Birth	02 Feb 1947 Somerset, Perry, Ohio, USA
1947	Birth	02 Feb 1947 Perry County, Ohio, USA
1967 20	Marriage nta belle BROWN	10 Jun 1967 Thornville, Perry, Ohio, USA; Grace Lutheran Church
1976 29	Divorce nta belle BROWN	27 Oct 1976 Newark, Licking, Ohio, United States
	Marriage nta belle BROWN	

Individual Report for Brooke Elizabeth LOVE

Individual Summary:	Brooke Elizabeth LOVE
Sex:	Female
Father:	gary lewis LOVE
Mother:	rita belle BROWN

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	10 Apr 1976 in Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, USA

Shared Facts:	[no spouse]
	[no facts]
Children:	[no children]

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for Brooke Elizabeth LOVE

Individual Summary: Brooke Elizabeth LOVE

Sex: Female

Father: gary lewis LOVE
Mother: rita belle BROWN

Individual Facts:

Birth: 10 Apr 1978 in Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, USA

Shared Facts: [no spouse]

[no facts]

Children: [no children]

Notes:

Person Notes [no notes]

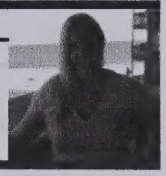
Timeline Report for Brooke Elizabeth LOVE

	Yr/Age	Event	Date/Place/Description
	1976	Birth	10 Feb 1976 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, USA
	1976	Birth	10 Apr 1976 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, USA

Timeline Report for Brooke Elizabeth LOVE

YrsAge	Event	Date/Place/Description
1978	Birth	10 Feb 1978 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, USA
1978	Birth	10 Apr 1978 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, USA

Individual Report for deidre anne LOVE



Individual Summary:	deidre anne LOVE
Sex:	Female
Father:	gary lewis LOVE
Mother:	rita belle BROWN

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	02 Jul 1971 in Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, United States; st. ann's hospital

Shared Facts:	Scott MISCH
Marriage:	11 Oct 1990 in Sanibel Island, Florida, USA; Beach ceremony
Children:	Michael Monroe MISCH
	abigail kaye MISCH

Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Timeline Report for deidre anne LOVE

	Yr/Age	Event	Date/Place/Description
	1971	Birth	02 Jul 1971 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, United States; st. ann's hospital
	1972 12 mos	Birth	02 Jul 1972 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, USA
	1989 17	Graduation	1989 Cape Coral, Lee, Florida, USA; Graduation Mariner High School
	1989 17	Residence	1989 Alva, FL
	1990 19	Marriage Scott MISCH	11 Oct 1990 Sanibel Island, Florida, USA; Beach ceremony

Individual Report for Scott MISCH

Individual Summary:	**Scott MISCH**
Sex:	Male
Father:	
Mother:	
Individual Facts:	
Birth:	19 Sep 1963 in Michigan, USA
Shared Facts:	**deidre anne LOVE**
Marriage:	11 Oct 1990 in Sanibel Island, Florida, USA; Beach ceremony
Children:	Michael Monroe MISCH
	abigail kaye MISCH
Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for Scott MISCH

Individual Summary: Scott MISCH

Sex: Male

Father:

Mother:

Individual Facts:

Birth: 19 Sep 1963 in Michigan, USA

Shared Facts: didn't come LOVE

Marriage: 11 Oct 1980 in Samoset Island, Florida, USA; Beach ceremony

Children: Michael Monroe MISCH

Abigail Kaye MISCH

Notes:

Person Notes: (no notes)

Individual Report for Michael Monroe MISCH

Individual Summary:	**Michael Monroe MISCH**
Sex:	Male
Father:	Scott MISCH
Mother:	deidre anne LOVE

Individual Facts:	
Birth:	15 Dec in Cape Coral, Lee, Florida, USA; Birth
Shared Facts:	**[no spouse]**
	[no facts]
Children:	[no children]
Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for Michael Monroe MISCH

Individual Summary: Michael Monroe MISCH

Sex: Male

Father: Scott MISCH
Mother: deidre anne LOVE

Individual Facts:

Birth: 18 Dec in Cape Coral, Lee, Florida, USA; Birth

Shared Facts: [no spouse]

[no facts]

Children: [no children]

Notes:

Person Notes: [no notes]

Timeline Report for Michael Monroe MISCH

	Yr/Age	Event	Date/Place/Description
	2011	Education	2011 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, United States; Mount Carmel School of Nursing
	2011	Graduation	03 Jun 2011 Lewis Center, Delaware, Ohio, USA; Olentangy High School
		Birth	15 Dec Cape Coral, Lee, Florida, USA; Birth
		Birth	

Timeline Report for Michael Monroe MISCH

YrsAge	Event	Date/Place/Description
2011	Education	2011 Columbus, Franklin, Ohio, United States; Mount Carmel School of Nursing
2011	Graduation	03 Jun 2011 Lewis Center, Delaware, Ohio, USA; Olentangy High School
	Birth	16 Dec Cape Coral, Lee, Florida, USA; Birth
	Birth	

Individual Report for abigail kaye MISCH

Individual Summary:	**abigail kaye MISCH**
Sex:	Female
Father:	Scott MISCH
Mother:	deidre anne LOVE
Individual Facts:	
Birth:	15 Sep in Michigan, USA
Shared Facts:	**[no spouse]**
	[no facts]
Children:	[no children]
Notes:	
Person Notes:	[no notes]

Individual Report for abigail kaye MISCH

Individual Summary: abigail kaye MISCH

Sex: Female

Father: Scott MISCH

Mother: deidre anne LOVE

Individual Facts:

Birth: 15 Sep in Michigan, USA

Shared Facts: [no spouse]

[no facts]

Children: [no children]

Notes:

Person Notes: [no notes]